

Summer 2019

Air Cadet

 **ROYAL
AIR FORCE
AIR CADETS**
the next generation

Space - The Final Frontier

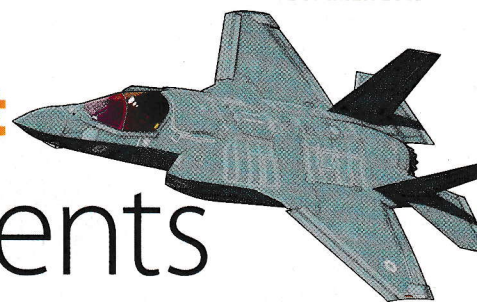
British
astronaut
Tim Peake helps launch
Cadet Space Programme



The Magic of Malawi
**Air Cadets Mark
D-Day 75**
Feast of Flying
at RIAT



AirCadet Contents



31

Air Cadet News

- 4 From the Top
- 5 RAF Appoints New CAS
- 10 Lees Trophy Winners
- 18 Air Cadets Mark D-Day
- 23 Westminster Award
- 42 Leading the Way at London Pride
- 46 Stoke Air Cadets get keys to new £1.2million HQ
- 64 Budding Pilots Take to the Skies

Aviation & Air Shows

- 16 Cadets Stand Out at Cosford Air Show
- 23 Flying Training Heads to New Heights
- 28 Centennial Wings Takes Flight

32 A Feast of Flying

- 34 Lightning Strike
- 50 Tornado Farewell

Features

- 6 The Final Frontier - RAF Air Cadets Launch New Space Syllabus
- 12 The Magic of Malawi
- 26 Cadets at Flypast to Salute Heroic Airmen
- 44 National Awards for RAF Air Cadet High Flyers
- 48 Cadets go Behind the Scenes at RAF Boulmer
- 56 Pomp and Pageantry

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

- 68 New Shine to Bronze Award

Cover Image: Photograph of Tim Peake by kind permission of ESA.

Every care has been taken in the preparation of this magazine, but neither Warners plc nor the RAF Air Cadets can be held responsible for the accuracy of the information herein, or any consequence arising from it. Views expressed by contributors and customers might not reflect the views of the RAF Air Cadets.

Managing Editor:

Editor:

Advertising:

Design:

Printing:

Denise E Parker, RAF Cranwell

Carol McCombe editoraircadet@hotmail.com

Edwin Rodriguez, Noah's Ark Media **07482571535**

Wayne Protheroe, Air Media Centre

Warners Midlands plc **01778391000**

AirCadet is sponsored by:

**ROYAL Charitable
AIR FORCE Trust**
promote support encourage



Email your Cadet news, events and high res pics to: editoraircadet@hotmail.com

Air Media Centre, HQ Air Command 3414_19WP
UK Ministry of Defence © Crown Copyright 2019



Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty with Air Marshal Andrew Turner and cadets from 393 and 291 Squadrons at The Air League's annual honours and awards reception at St James's Palace.

A year to look forward to...

By Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty
Commandant Air Cadets

Well, we not only survived RAF100, we officially smashed it! Analysis of our contribution to this historic milestone for our parent Service indicates that the RAF Air Cadets contributed to an additional 350+ RAF100-themed events across the UK and abroad and that over 20,000 cadets and 7,500 adult volunteers were engaged in the Commemorate, Celebrate and Inspire themes of the year.

I am well aware that many cadets, volunteers and staff had once-in-a-lifetime opportunities as a result of the Centenary and I thank the RAF for enabling us to get involved in many of the "big ticket" events involving the senior leadership, Ministers and Royalty.

But all of that effort beyond the already-busy cadet calendar came at some cost to the Organisation and I know that staff and volunteers were very tired at the end of the year. Consequently, and with the support of our senior staffs, our aim for 2019 is for a year of relative respite – if such a thing can be achieved when supporting 40,000 teenagers! This means we will try to control the "good ideas" club and commit only to those events

and activities we believe are in the best interests of the cadets.

That doesn't mean we will be standing still. 2019 will see us taking forward important work on the development of cyber and space curricula (see page 6) and we will continue to evaluate the Cadet and Adult Volunteer offer to ensure we recruit and retain as many high calibre and well-motivated personnel as we can. We will be analysing the cost and value of delivering national activity at scale and will seek to enhance access for all whilst driving down costs where we can, be that travel and accommodation, Volunteer Allowance or the most precious commodity we have at our disposal – adult volunteer time.

As for my personal aspirations for 2019, I intend to continue to get out of the HQ as much as possible (no offence to my lovely staff in the HQ!) to support cadet activity at grass roots level within the ATC, CCF(RAF) and VGS communities.

We have welcomed a new Commandant 2FTS (see page 11) and I look forward to seeing how we can enhance the cadet aviation offer as we (finally) emerge from the glider recovery programme.

Improvements at Windermere AT Centre should be completed by the end of the summer and we should also begin to see refurbishment of our mobile climbing walls and delivery of additional air rifle and leadership equipment thanks to generous support from the RAF Charitable Trust.

So, lots to look forward to and I hope you will all join me on another year's journey maintaining our world class reputation. The old adage is true – "You get out what you put in" – and I hope that whilst conserving energy and time where you can, many of you will continue to put in what you can this year – staff, volunteer or cadet – as it is your collective and individual efforts that underpin success. Thank you for all you do in whatever role you have – it is a privilege to lead you. ■

Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty

RAF Appoints new CAS



Air Cadets were on hand to witness the handover of the post of Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) held at the Royal Air Force College Cranwell in Lincolnshire.

After three years in command of the Royal Air Force and a total of 39 years' distinguished service, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier has stepped down as Chief of the Air Staff.

In a ceremony before RAF College Hall, Air Chief Marshal Hillier handed the command of 35,000 Regular and Reserve personnel and 5,000 Civil Servants, and responsibility for the safe and effective operation of the Service's manned and unmanned aircraft, to Air Chief Marshal Mike Wigston.

During his three years in command, ACM Hillier led the Air Force through one of its busiest periods with personnel deployed to 33 countries and directly supporting 32 operations in 2019 alone. He also oversaw the introduction of next generation aircraft into service, including the F-35 Lightning, and presided over the landmark RAF100 celebrations.

He said: "I hand over to my successor, Air Chief Marshal Wigston, inspired and proud of what we have achieved, confident of our bright future, and knowing that the whole Force and RAF Family will support him in the same exemplary manner as they have done with me.

"Elaine and I offer our very best wishes to everyone in the RAF Family - good luck, and thank you to the RAF for developing me, looking after me, and giving me the most incredible opportunities and experiences. It truly has been no ordinary job, and no ordinary life."



Air Chief Marshal Wigston will build on the legacy of RAF100, transforming the Service, to deliver the Next Generation Air Force.

Speaking of his appointment, Air Chief Marshal Wigston said: "I'm honoured to be the new Chief of the Air Staff.

"The Royal Air Force I joined in 1986 was very different to the one I'm now

privileged to command. We've seen a huge amount change in that time, but the constant has been the brilliant people from all walks of life who serve the Royal Air Force with energy, commitment and great pride.

"The future is exciting and offers huge opportunities. I look forward to leading the Royal Air Force over the coming years, delivering Air and Space power to protect our nation."

Commissioned on a University Cadetship in 1986, Air Chief Marshal Wigston completed his pilot training on the Tornado GR1 in 1992 followed by a succession of frontline tours, including operational deployments enforcing the no-fly zones in Iraq. In January 2015, he was appointed Commander British Forces Cyprus.

In 2016 he was appointed Assistant Chief of the Air Staff, responsible for delivering the RAF Strategy coordination of the RAF100 centenary programme. Prior to becoming Chief of the Air Staff, he was Deputy Commander Capability at Headquarters Air Command.

The ceremony, attended by over 400 guests, comprised a unique parade and the handover of the CAS Sword, which bears on its blade the name of the Chiefs of the Air Staff and the year they took office. ■



The Final Frontier

RAF Air Cadets is literally reaching for the stars as it launches a new space syllabus with the help of British astronaut Tim Peake and its Ambassador, Honorary Group Captain Carol Vorderman.

Words by Denise Parker
Images by Philip Jones

**LAUNCH
PAD**

A Space Award
for Air Cadets

**ROYAL
AIR FORCE
AIR CADETS**
the next generation



“It’s a giant leap for us to be able to deliver space and cyber as modern, dynamic and technology-based syllabus subjects for our air cadets aged 12-19.”

Tim Peake and Carol helped the cadets – known for decades light-heartedly as “space cadets” – to press the green launch button on the new training programme at the Royal International Air Tattoo, Gloucestershire.

The Space Award course has been launched in tandem with the Open University and puts the air cadets into orbit in terms of understanding the solar system and space exploration.

The RAF Air Cadets is already a world leader in terms of teaching cadets aviation related courses and was one of the first youth organisations to teach cyber including ethical hacking.

Stuart McNeill, of HQ RAF Air Cadets at RAF Cranwell, Lincolnshire, who developed the course along with the OU, said: “This is a magnificent partnership with the OU. We approached the university because they have a history of running online courses. They welcomed it with open arms.”

The OU has written the programme to match the RAF Air Cadets’ syllabus. It is modular and has levels from blue through to bronze, silver and gold which can be studied in a minimum of about six months depending on squadron time available.

The RAF Air Cadets has always produced pilots for industry and for the military although it is not a recruiting organisation for the latter.

With increased interest in space operations, technology and exploration, the RAF Air Cadets probably has the best programme of any youth organisation in the UK or the world to produce future astronauts.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the “first man on the moon” when NASA’s astronaut Neil Armstrong broadcast to the watching world saying “it’s a small step for man and a giant leap for mankind”.

Stuart said: “It’s a giant leap for us to be able to deliver space and cyber as modern, dynamic and technology-based syllabus subjects for our air cadets aged 12-19.”

There is an instructor’s module for the subject to be delivered at the RAF Air Cadets 1,000 Air Training Corps squadrons across the UK and also for its 230 Combined Cadet Force (RAF) school based units.

Cadets passing the course will receive a certificate accredited by the OU. ■



Inspiring the next generation



British astronaut Tim Peake has spoken about how aerospace can help inspire future generations after flying with the Red Arrows.

He joined the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team for a scheduled, practice flight which involved a 20-minute display.

The astronaut flew in the rear seat of Red 1's aircraft, getting to feel, first-hand, the team's hallmark combination of close-formations, precision passes and dynamic loops and rolls.

One of the manoeuvres featuring in the Red Arrows' 2019 show, which Tim was able to experience, is Apollo – involving all nine of the team's fast-jets, arranged in a shape that marks the 50th anniversary of the moon landing.

He said: "What a huge honour and privilege to join the Red Arrows – a fantastic flight. It was brilliant to fly with Red 1, to see not only what was going on in the front but also looking back at the amazing formations. I fulfilled a boyhood dream today, I really have."

Both the Red Arrows and the astronaut are ambassadors for promoting science, technology, engineering and maths – the so-called STEM subjects – and aim to inspire people to consider careers involving these areas.

Tim said: "STEM is so important – what it does for young people is to provide opportunities in life.

"By studying STEM, you are going to give yourself the maximum opportunities to go into a variety of exciting and interesting careers. And it's a workplace where we have a real shortage here in the UK, so we need to encourage younger generations to get involved in science, engineering and technology."

Born in Chichester, West Sussex, Tim studied at the University of Portsmouth before attending the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

He flew Apache helicopters with the British Army Air Corps before later inspiring millions with a 186-day mission working on the International Space

Station. He returned to Earth after this mission in June 2016.

The astronaut flew in the rear seat of a jet flown by Squadron Leader Martin Pert – Red 1 and Team Leader of the Red Arrows.

Squadron Leader Pert said: "It was a real inspiration flying a British astronaut and hopefully the combined assets of the Red Arrows and Tim Peake will encourage future generations to think about what exciting roles they can pursue." ■

“we need to encourage young generations to get involved in science engineering and technology”

Sky no longer the limit

Former Defence Secretary Penny Mordaunt has outlined the MOD's ambitious space programme, committing £30m to fast-track the launch of a small satellite demonstrator within a year.

The small satellite demonstrator, which will be supported by a new transatlantic team of UK and US defence personnel, named Team ARTEMIS, will sit alongside a host of other programmes that will demonstrate the UK's leading future role in space.

This includes the UK becoming the first partner nation to join Operation Olympic Defender, a US-led international coalition formed to strengthen deterrence against hostile actors and seconding an RAF test pilot to Virgin Orbit's small satellite programme.

To bring all this work together, Joint Forces Command, the organisation designed to coordinate activity across the Armed Forces, will be transformed into Strategic Command and given a greater strategic role across the five war-fighting domains: Air, Land, Sea, Cyber and Space.

Speaking at the Royal Air Force Air and Space Power Conference in London, Penny Mordaunt said: "Today we show the sky is no longer the limit for our Armed Forces with a multi-million-pound investment in the launch of a small satellite demonstrator, supported by a new transatlantic team of defence personnel."

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier, former Chief of the Air Staff, said: "I am delighted that the Secretary of State has announced our plans to take our space ambitions to the next stage through Project ARTEMIS.

"When this is combined with our investments in the training and development of our people, improved command and control, greater space situational awareness, and our



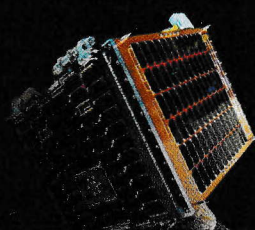
Former Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier signs the Memorandum of Understanding to undertake research into the military uses of small satellites

commitment to the Space Coalition with our allies, it all underlines the important and constantly growing role of Space in the Royal Air Force's capabilities.

"ARTEMIS gives us the opportunity to grow skills, understand the military relevance of small satellites and responsive launch, and consider how to get space-based information to the warfighter in operationally relevant timelines, all of which are

vital to ensure we stay ahead of the evolving threat."

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) has invested over £1.5m in space facilities at Portsdown West, with the installation of a new satellite ground control station to support future space research activities for the MOD. The terminal will be able to direct satellites in both low-Earth and geosynchronous orbits.



The Queen's Birthday Honours

The Royal Air Force Air Cadets is pleased to announce that the following members of the organisation have been recognised in HM The Queen's Birthday Honours' List 2019.

Congratulations to all of those who have received awards.

British Empire Medal

Mr T A Knights 299 (Exmouth) Squadron

Chief of Air Staff Commendation

Wg Cdr A S Wright - Officer Commanding Trent Wing

Deputy Commander Capability and Air Member Personnel & Capability Commendation

Sqn Ldr P D Reeve Combined Cadet Force (RAF) Contingent Commander,
King Edward VI Grammar School - Louth, Lincolnshire

Air Officer Commanding 22 Group Commendation

Mrs J Tillison Admin Officer, HQ No 2FTS
Mr E W Wallace Civilian Instructor 379 (County of Ross) Sqn
Wg Cdr F Reis Plymouth & Cornwall Wg
Sqn Ldr S A Constable London & SE Region
Sqn Ldr T D Gray South East Scotland Wing
Sqn Ldr R J T Jones No 1 Welsh Wg
Flt Lt N Gamble 644 Volunteer Gliding School (VGS)
Flt Lt A Lees 645 VGS
Flt Lt P D Whitters 621 VGS
FS H L Coates 644 VGS



Lees Trophy winners

The winners of the prestigious Lees Trophy for 2019 are 111 (Sunderland) Squadron, North Region.

They triumphed to take the trophy as the best of the smallest squadrons in the UK, beating hundreds of other units!

In the final, the Commandant of the RAF Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty, toured the UK inspecting the best six squadrons put forward by each Air Training Corps Region.

She said: "It was the toughest competition I've encountered in years and I am very proud of all of the six squadrons who made it to the final inspections.

"You were all worthy contenders and should be so proud of yourselves; you were all outstanding examples of the ATC at its best.

"Congratulations of course to 111 (Sunderland) Squadron who were fantastic in every way."

The winners – who will receive their trophy at a formal presentation soon – will also receive a cheque for £2,500.

Well done to the other five units - it was a very close competition and the standards were unbelievably high. The five runners up will also get a cheque for £1,000.

New man at the helm

It's all change at 2 Flying Training School as Group Captain Baz Dale has taken over as the new Commandant.

Baz, a former RAF Tornado pilot with extensive experience overseas, now heads up the RAF Air Cadets' gliding fleet and 10 Volunteer Gliding Squadrons across the UK.

He said: "I am honoured to have taken over as Commandant of 2 Flying Training School and offer my sincere thanks to Group Captain Euge Moriarty for his excellent leadership over the past few months.

"This is an exciting time for RAF Air Cadet Gliding. I look forward to the full support of the operations, engineering and support teams in the coming years to ensure a safe and positive increase in our gliding capability."

Gp Capt Moriarty said: "It has been a privilege to lead 2FTS over these last four months. I wish Gp Capt Dale the very best of luck as he takes command."

Gp Capt Moriarty was the caretaker Commandant as the previous Commandant 2FTS, Gp Capt John Middleton retired in November 2018 after five years in post.

Gp Capt Dale brings with him extensive experience as a pilot and director.

He had four tours as a Tornado GR1 & GR4 (Ground attack/Reconnaissance) Pilot and Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI), flying on 12 (Bomber), 617 (The Dambusters), and XV (Operational Conversion Unit) Squadrons and he flew 63 sorties over Iraq on Op WARDEN, Op JURAL, and Op RESINATE, and was a Central Flying School Accredited



Instructor and Command IRE on the Tornado GR OCU.

On operations away from flying Tornados, Baz was the first Tornado GR Liaison Officer to be based at the Combined Air Operations Centre, Riyadh, in 1998. From April to August 2002, as a Mission Air Director & Director of Operations on the Ground (MADDOG), at Incirlik Airbase Turkey, Baz was the airborne representative of the US Air Force Combined Air Forces' Component Commander while directing operations from an E3 Sentry AWACS. He was awarded a Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service for his performance on this tour.

From April to October 2011, Baz was the first Wing Commander to embed with the US Marine Corps (at Camp Leatherneck, Bastion Airfield) as a Senior Watch Officer in the 2nd Marine Air Wing (Forward) Tactical Air Command Centre – commanding air and aviation in Regional Command South-West. During this demanding tour, he successfully directed over 700 urgent MEDEVACs (life, limb and/or eyesight within the 'Golden

Hour'), and over 400 Close Air Support requests.

From 2012 to 2014, Baz commanded 72 Squadron, training the next generation of fast-jet pilots, at RAF Linton-on-Ouse; he was the supervising officer for the Tucano Air Display over two very successful seasons. Baz has also been an Air Experience Pilot for the RAF Air Cadets since 2008, flying with 4 AEF (Glasgow), 6 AEF (RAF Benson) and 9 AEF (RAF Linton-on-Ouse), both as a regular and, most recently, as a VR(T) pilot.

Baz undertook several staff appointments within HQ Air Command and MOD Head Office during his career, including: the Directorate of Targeting

& Information Operations; Personal Staff Officer to the Commander in Chief Air Command; Global Strategic Trends, in the Development Concepts & Doctrine Centre; Supervising Officer in Air Manning; and in the Carrier Enabled Power Projection Programme Office - bringing the Queen Elizabeth aircraft carriers and F-35 Lightning II aircraft into service.

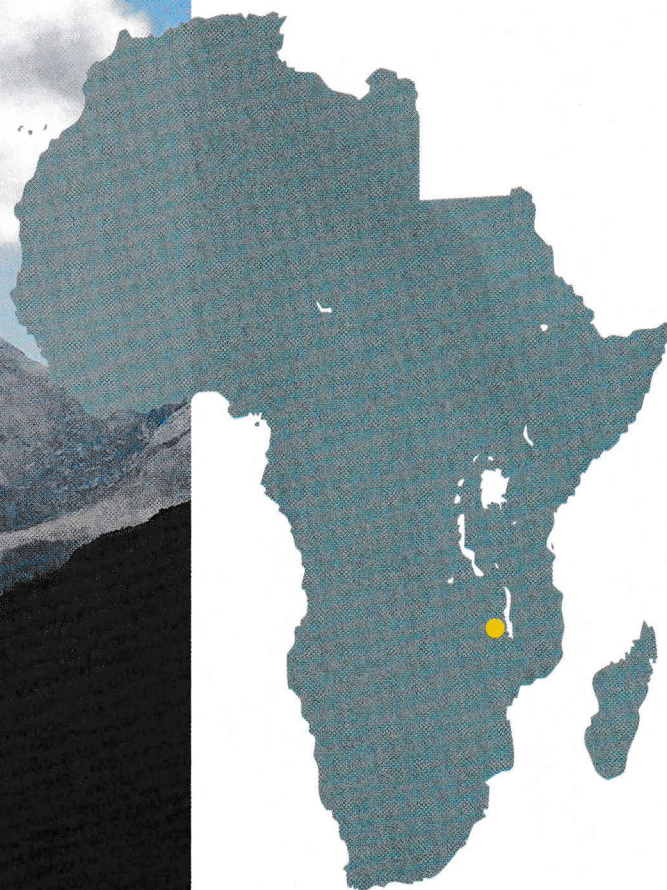
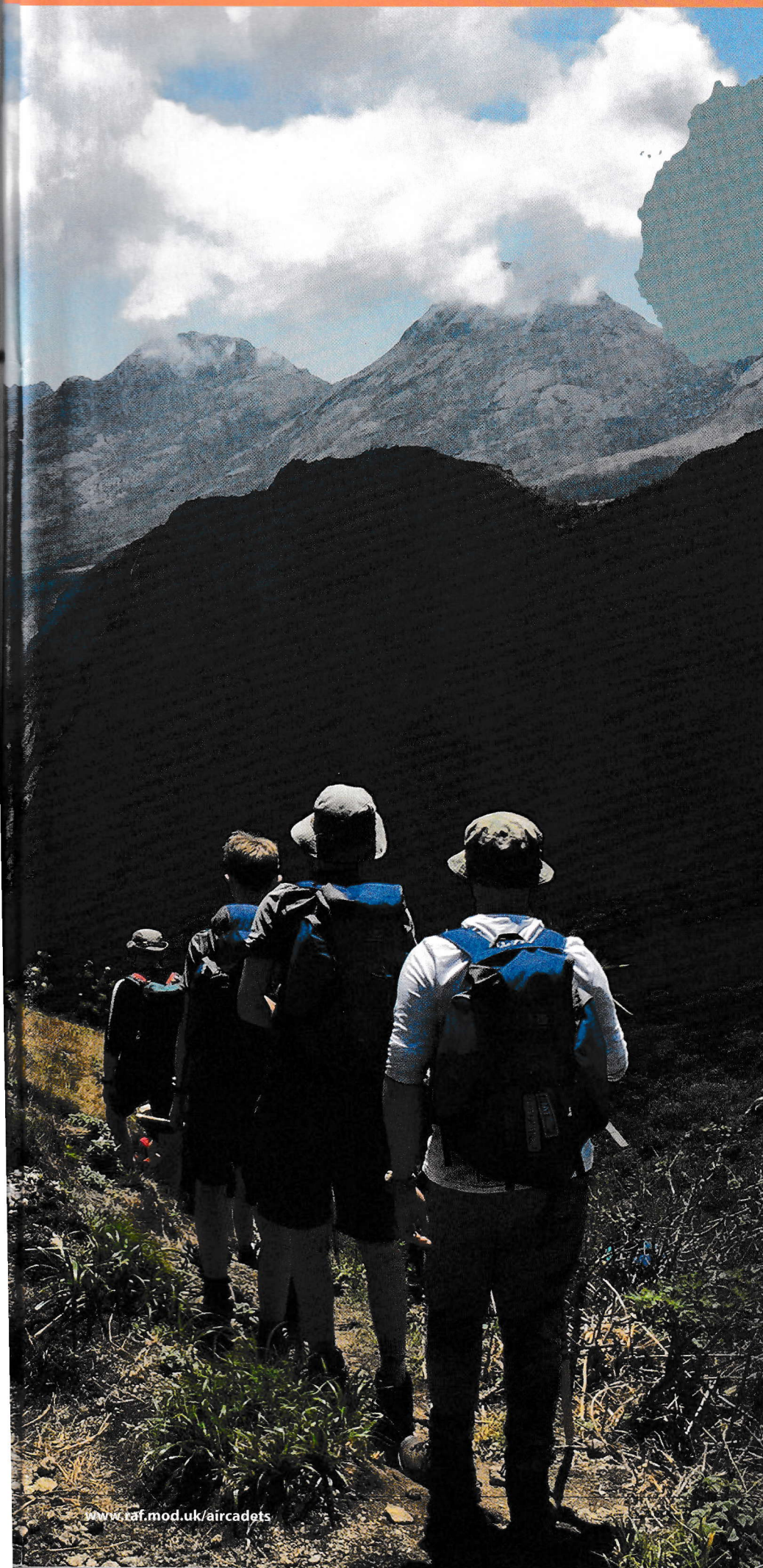
On retirement from regular RAF service, in 2017, Baz became the Director Scotland, Northern Ireland & North East England for the RAF Benevolent Fund - the leading welfare charity for the RAF. Baz enjoyed developing a network of contacts and supporters across his area of responsibility with other military charities, corporate partners and individuals who have an interest in supporting the welfare of the RAF Family.

Baz, who was a CCF cadet and is a law post-graduate said: "I am honoured to assume command of 2 FTS, and I greatly look forward to building the gliding capability for the benefit of the RAF Air Cadets and other endorsed programmes." ■

The Magic of Malawi

Dominated by the Great Rift Valley, Malawi in Southern Africa is home to the dramatic peaks of Mount Mulanje, vast, rolling plains and exotic wildlife. This natural paradise cast its spell over a team of cadets who completed a challenging hike through the Mulanje Massif National Park.

Words & Images by Flt Lt David Hill



After a year of planning, the 359 (Bexleyheath) Squadron-led expedition, comprising 10 cadets and four staff from across Bexleyheath, Welling, Swanley, Battle and Kensington Sqns, travelled to Malawi to take on Mount Mulanje – known by locals as the ‘island in the sky’.

The expedition, at the end of last year, was part of the RAF100 celebration events.

In the run up to the expedition, the group spent several days trekking in the South Downs, Sussex, but that paled into insignificance at first sight of the Mulanje Massif, rising sharply from the surrounding plains of Chizardzulu and the tea-growing Mulanje district and stretching across 13 by 16 miles.

Mount Mulanje - lush green rolling peaks, covered in grassland and deep forest ravines that intersect across the slopes - towers over 3,000m high, dwarfing all that surrounds it. Formed over 130 million years ago, there is evidence to suggest that the mountain was inhabited by humans from as far back as the Stone Age. The first European to report seeing the mountain was David Livingstone in 1895.



Expedition Leader, Flight Lieutenant David Hill, said: "As we walked through the motel, the Mulanje Massif could be seen towering over the roof. The immediate peak couldn't have been any closer and it soon became apparent just how big the mountainous Mulanje district is."

The three-day trek of Mulanje (3,002m) started at Likhubla Forest with the team tackling a steep ascent along the skyline path. Much of the Mulanje Massif consists of rolling grassland at elevations of 1,800 to 2,200m, intersected by deep forested ravines. Within the first half hour, the group spotted some baboons in the forest as well as a multitude of insects and butterflies.

On the way up the igneous rock glistened under the bright sunlight, giving a glittery effect to the rock. After a very hot and steep six hours of trekking, the group made it to the

Chambe mountain hut for the evening. Within minutes of arrival the heavens opened and rain and hailstone fell hard. Fortunately, tents were put up in time thanks to the thunder giving advance notice of the coming storm!

Challenging

Day two and the ascent over challenging terrain in the heat continued. But the views were spectacular.

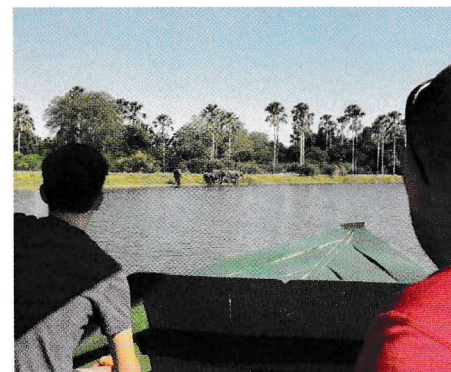
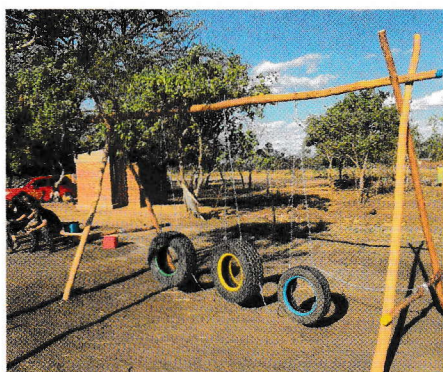
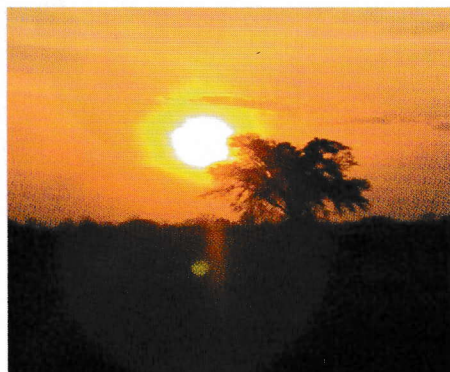
Flt Lt Hill said: "The land was beautiful and the mountains rolled from one in to another for as far as the eye could see in all directions. The bright blue sky, orangey-red looking rock and heat definitely felt a world apart to home."

The evening brought more rain and very large hail stones which, as the team struck out on day three for the final 340m ascent, became apparent from the gushing streams and rivers.

Cadet Corporal Natasha Fanthome from 359 (Bexleyheath) Sqn said: "One of my highlights has been how the team has bonded during the trek to get through tough times as well as the breathtaking views such as the rivers, waterfalls, mountains and forest.

"Whilst up at 7,000 feet we were walking through clouds and the temperature was cooler, which felt so nice. We came across stunning view points and when we took breaks being able to sit and appreciate the views provided much motivation to persevere."

Following the trek, the team travelled to Chokolongo, Balaka District to complete a community project building a playground for the Mlambe School, a local government primary school for some 1,200 young children.



The site of the playground had been prepared by the local community and materials such as wooden poles, tyres and cement had been purchased ahead of the group's arrival. Extra materials such as small chains and bolts were taken from the UK to assist with the construction as well as some basic hand tools and personal protective equipment which had kindly been donated.

Initial progress felt slow, digging holes and drilling lots of materials, but the team completed the project in just three full days which meant a full day could be spent with the local children, playing games.

Amazing

Cpl Ethan White said: "This was a highlight for me. We had more than 250 kids engaged in games all over the school and watching their enjoyment of

the adventure playground we had built was priceless."

Cpl Emmie-Lou Cooper agreed, saying: "I found the project amazing, both that we could achieve so much in such a short time but also how something so simple could make such a difference to the school. It was the most rewarding thing I have done in my life so far."

Whilst working on the project the team stayed with locals and spent time mixing with the local community.

Flt Lt Hill said: "It was a real eye opener – we saw just how basic the schools were and what day to day life was like, especially for the children. Some of the children did not even have shoes or a bag in which to put their school books."

Cadet Sergeant Ellysha Franklin of 358 (Welling) Sqn added: "I have absolutely loved spending time with the children and local families and experiencing their

way of life. When I go back home I hope my different outlook on life will remain and appreciate the way I live in England in comparison to families who don't even have the privilege of running water."

The final part of the trip consisted of a rest and recoup safari phase where the team would have access to running water and electricity for the first time in almost ten days! Although a brief two days, the safari didn't disappoint with the cadets seeing an abundance of wild animals including elephants, crocodiles, hippos, zebra and antelope.

Final words to Cadet Sergeant Emily Griffiths: "I wouldn't change anything about the trip. It was an amazing end to my cadet career before heading off to University and the next phase of my life – thanks to all that made it happen!"

Thanks to the Ulysses Trust for their support. ■



By Sqn Ldr Lisa Claber

Cadets Stand out at Cosford Air Show

Air Cadets were out in force at this year's RAF Cosford Air Show, the Royal Air Force's only major air display of the year which this year attracted some 60,000 spectators.

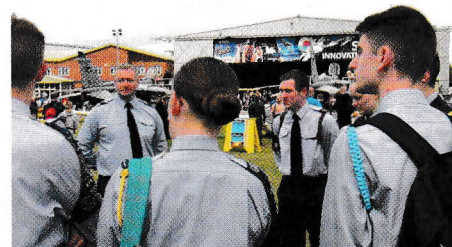
RAF Air Cadets, for many years, have supported this amazing annual flying show and 2019 was no exception. Nearly 250 air cadets and staff were on duty at the show whilst many hundreds more cadets from around the UK came along to watch the flying display and take in the many static aircraft, displays and stalls including, of course, the RAF Village.

The aircraft on display are the undoubted stars of the show, but there's a lot more to the RAF Cosford Air Show than that – as the cadets proved!

Almost 150 cadets and staff from Staffordshire & West Mercian Wings manned the engagement area within the RAF village and in the main STEM hangar, with a band from 2497 (Cosford) Squadron providing the musical entertainment throughout the day.

Wales & West Region's recently formed Ceremonial Flight provided a superb display. Crowds stood and watched in admiration at the precision and skill of the the team that was also asked to perform for the VIPs within the Station Commander's guest enclosure.

Organised and coordinated by Regional Warrant Officer Donna Hall who said: "We have practised long and hard but were really excited about our



performances at the air show. The reaction from the Station Commander, his VIPs and the air show visitors was exceptional. I am so proud of everyone in the Ceremonial Flight and the staff who helped us put it all together."

The air show also gave the Staffordshire Wing radio team an opportunity to let air cadets practise their radio etiquette, an exercise that has been carried out at the air show for quite a long time and has provided good experience for everyone involved.

Meanwhile, 196 (Walsall) Sqn provided parking and marshalling for the ATC vehicles from squadrons all over the UK. Flight Lieutenant Ian Averill, Officer Commanding at 196 (Walsall) Sqn, said: "As a squadron, we have been doing this little job at the air show for quite a few years. I've personally been involved for more than 10 years and never cease to smile at the excitement of the visiting cadets. It's an early start for us all, but the atmosphere is electric. We always have our fingers crossed for good weather and this year, it wasn't bad. I still got sunburnt, even with the cloud cover!"

Another highlight was being asked to provide a guard of honour for The Royal Air Force Museum, Cosford #RAFM101Walk. The air cadets provided a fantastic walkway to welcome in the walkers who had completed 101 walking miles to raise money for a children's area in the museum.

The air show provided an action-packed, six hour flying display that included the Swiss Hornet Display team, the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, the RAF Falcons and, of course, the Red Arrows.

Being situated next to the Red Arrows in the RAF Village was also a bonus, as the queues waiting to meet the Reds couldn't miss the RAF Air Cadets display.

"We had parents saving the places in the queue so their children could come over and play with the STEM activities put on by 1871 (Rugeley) Sqn and have a go on the climbing tower, manned by 351 (Burton upon Trent) Sqn," said Squadron Leader Lisa Claber, Wales and West Region Media Comms Officer and Project Officer for the air show.

"The Cosford Air Show is a really long day for all of us involved but it is worth it. Group Captain Roger Simon, Regional Commandant Wales and West, and myself are so proud of everyone who made sure the visitors to our area went away with lots of information. The families visiting the Air Cadet display came from all over the UK. There was a lot of interest from both children and adults and we hope they soon become part of the RAF Air Cadet family."

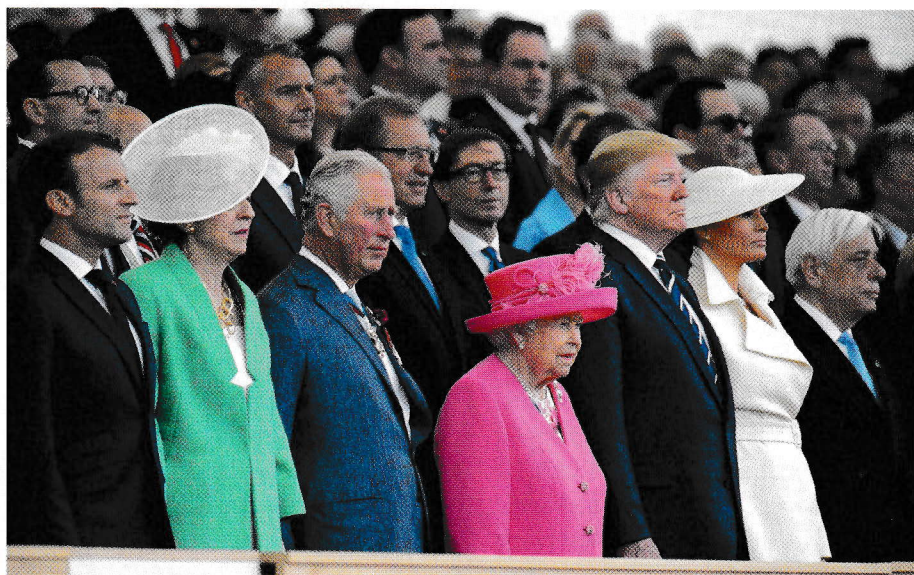
Cadet Sergeant Adam Taylor from 1871 (Rugeley) Sqn summed it up: "Being an air cadet gives me so many opportunities and to come to Cosford Air Show and see another side to it is just brilliant.

"I've really enjoyed showing the youngsters how to use our STEM robot and encourage them to think about joining us when they are old enough. I've made some new friends from other squadrons and the icing on the cake was being able to talk to one of the Red Arrows, on my own! Oh yes, the flying display was great too." ■

Air cadets joined Royalty, world leaders and veterans to mark the D-Day 75th Anniversary commemorations in the UK and in France

Air Cadets Mark D-Day 75

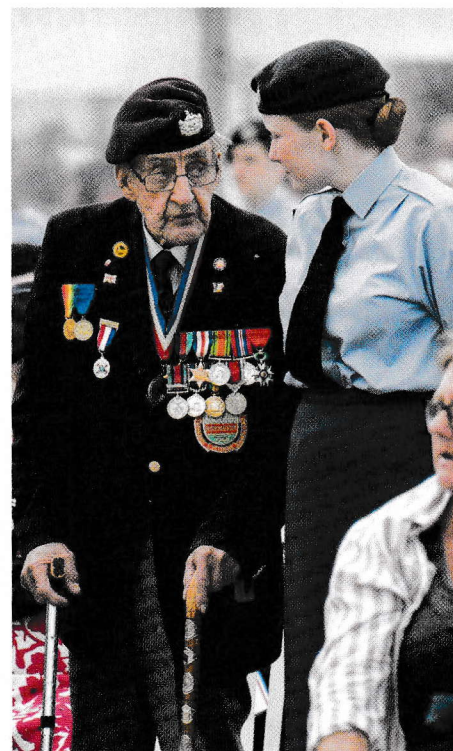
D-DAY 75



In a celebration fit for heroes, remarkable D-Day veterans gathered to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the famous landings in Northern France.

As cadets laid flowers at the war graves in Normandy, a spokesperson said: "The cadets and escorting volunteers wanted to pay tribute to the veterans and to those who lost their lives."

Earlier, former Prime Minister Theresa May addressed the D-Day veterans at a commemoration ceremony in Ver-sur-Mer. Closing her emotionally-charged speech, she said: "Here in Normandy, the names of those British men and women who lost their lives will forever sit across the Channel from their homeland."



"We'll always remember their courage and conviction. And to the veterans that are here today - I want to say the only two words I can: Thank you."

The British Normandy Memorial, funded by the Normandy Memorial Trust, is being built on a hillside in Ver-sur-Mer, overlooking Gold Beach, one of the key sites for British troops during the Normandy Landings.

A sculpture created by David Williams-Ellis was unveiled marking the beginning of construction for the memorial.

After the memorial inauguration, Mrs May joined veterans and the Prince of Wales at a cathedral service in Bayeux, the first town to be liberated in June 1944 by units of the British Army.

The moving service saw veterans and religious leaders deliver speeches to honour those who made the "ultimate sacrifice" during the Second World War.

Many veterans travelled to the town of Arromanches, the famous location





of the Mulberry Harbours which were towed across the Channel. Cadets from Bristol and Gloucestershire Wing joined a parade of British D-Day veterans in the Normandy town, overlooking the Gold beach. They were warmly applauded by the crowd as they arrived.

Later, former Defence Secretary Penny Mordaunt joined US Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe in laying wreaths on Juno Beach.

Cadets were also present at Portsmouth for a special commemorative event with HM The Queen, world leaders and Regular Service personnel.

At an international event on Southsea Common, an audience of veterans, military, senior figures and local residents watched an hour-long performance telling the story of D-Day and the meticulous planning by allied forces that paved the way for the invasion of Normandy.

The event featured testimony from veterans, theatrical performances and live music culminating in a flypast of 24 aircraft including the Red Arrows and the iconic Spitfire

Penny Mordaunt said: "The people of Portsmouth and our Armed Forces have



demonstrated the eternal affection and respect the nation holds for our Second World War generation.

"These commemorations have given young and old the opportunity to learn why we should never forget the debt we owe for the peace and freedom we now enjoy." ■



Thank you

Closer to home, Group Captain John Lawlor, Chief of Staff at Headquarters Air Cadets, met 95-year-old D-Day veteran Bob at the Buddies Dementia Cafe in Nettleham.

Bob, a former RAF engineer, was on board HMS Bulolo, the flagship for Gold Beach, that was transporting soldiers from the 51st Tyne Tees Division. Bob was part of the team maintaining contact with the Spitfires.

The ship came under attack from the air and also came under fire from a shore battery within half an hour of anchoring early on D-Day. Twelve crew members died and were buried at sea.

Gp Capt Lawlor was delighted to meet Bob, and chat to him about his RAF career that spanned 35 years as well as thanking him for his service during the war. ■



Blue Lanyard Taster

Cadets from across the Central and East Region have had the opportunity to sample the contents of the Air Cadet Qualified Aerospace Instructors Course (QAIC).

Two of these "taster courses" were held recently and allowed 40 of the Region's cadets to try the subjects that make up the full QAIC programme. Utilizing the excellent facilities at the Region's Activity Centre at RAF Cranwell, the cadets sampled the functions of Air Traffic Control, flight navigation, and simulated flying on state-of-the-art simulators. They also had to demonstrate their ability to stand in front of an audience and deliver a presentation.

For those who enjoyed the taster, there is the opportunity to apply for places on the full course which, on successful completion, would allow them the privilege of wearing the coveted blue lanyard.

Full courses are run either at MOD Boscombe Down or at RAF Linton on Ouse. After successful completion the qualified cadets will have the skills and knowledge to deliver interactive presentations on a wide range of Aerospace and Air Power related subjects. They will also be key to the successful running of the Region Activity Centres and Air Cadet Community Engagement Platforms. ■



Lord Lieutenant's Cadet

Cadet Warrant Officer James Douglas from 2344 (Longbenton) Squadron has been appointed as Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant's Cadet for 2019.

He was officially welcomed into the role by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Tyne and Wear, Mrs Sue Winfield, at a ceremony held at Dykelands Road Army Reserve Centre, Seaburn. 18-year-old James said: "It's a privilege to have been appointed to the role and I'm really excited to have the opportunity to support the Lord Lieutenant." ■

New cadets welcomed

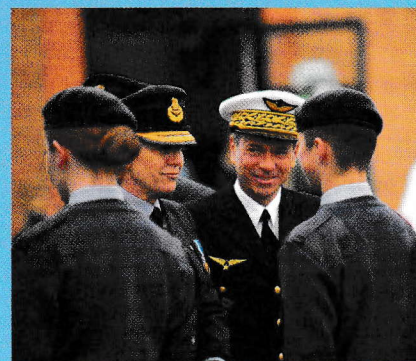
Members of the French Air Force, visited 1936 (Newton) Squadron for the enrolment of 22 junior cadets to the squadron.

The representatives of the L'Armée de l'Air were in the UK, undertaking research to further develop a fledgling French Air Cadet Corps.

Also watching the enrolment parade were Councillor Maureen Stockwood, Mayor of Rushcliffe, Sir Edward Nall, the squadron's Honorary President, and representatives from the Royal British Legion.

As well as welcoming the new cadets, Air Commodore McCafferty also formally opened the squadron's new flight simulator facilities – financed through 18 months of fundraising carried out by the cadets and the unit's civilian committee.

Wing Commander Andy Pass, Officer Commanding South and East Midlands Wing, then officially opened the Flight Lieutenant Joe Clark Heritage Classroom in memory of former OC, Flt Lt Joe Clark, who had dedicated more than 40 years to the Corps – some 21 of them serving at 1936 Sqn. ■



New Badge

Cadets and staff of 65 (Bridgwater & District) Squadron were joined by members of the Royal British Legion and the Town's Mayor, Councillor Diogo Rodrigues, during the unveiling of the squadron's newly designed badge.

The new badge was approved in 2018 and depicts the Willow Man sculpture which is synonymous with the local area. The Willow Man can be seen by motorists travelling on the M5 near to the town.

The badge bears the Latin inscription 'Coeuntes Perficimus', Together we learn. ■





On Target

More than 200 cadets from across London and South East Region have taken part in the Region's first shooting training weekend.

Under the guidance of some 60 qualified, experienced staff they were trained, tested and then allowed to fire a selection of the weapons available to members of the RAF Air Cadets.

The camp was the brainchild of Squadron Leader Mike Lee, OC No 5 Small Arms Training Team, and demand for places was high.

Over the course of the weekend 170 cadets passed their weapons handling tests with dozens going on to gain Marksmanship badges.

Fourteen-year-old Cadet Lola Stephens of 291 (Westminster and Chelsea) Squadron, said: "I have always enjoyed shooting and this weekend has gone well. I have learned to fire a new rifle and I definitely want to take my shooting further within the cadets". ■



Words and Images: Philip Jones

Armed Forces Day



More than 300 events have been held across the UK to mark Armed Forces Day.

The main 11th annual event, which honours service personnel from all branches of the armed forces as well as veterans, was hosted in Salisbury.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Princess Anne, took the salute during a parade of more than 1,300 service personnel, cadets and veterans at the Armed Forces Day.

Thousands of people have paid their respects in the city, as the day was celebrated with numerous military displays, including a flypast by the RAF's Red Arrows and an aerial display by the Army's Parachute Regiment.

Former Defence Secretary, Penny Mordaunt said: "On Armed Forces Day we celebrate the exceptional contribution service personnel, regular or reservist, veterans and their families make to our security and prosperity. The Armed Forces protect us and defend us around the world and serve communities throughout our country."

"With more than 300 events taking place across the UK, it's incredible to see people coming together to show their support for the Armed Forces."

Cadets and staff from Plymouth & Cornwall Wing supported the annual service of commemoration and thanksgiving on the 30th anniversary of the unveiling of the RAF & Allied Air Forces Monument at Plymouth Hoe.

The service was attended by guests from all 10 Allied Nations, Senior RAF officers, Commandant RAFAC and approximately 300 guests.

Some 60 cadets and staff, led by the Wing's Officer Commanding, Wing Commander Francis Reis, took part in the commemoration, including the laying of wreaths at the memorials by one of the Wing's youngest cadets, 12-year-old Millie Thompson of 197 (Devonport) Squadron. ■



Westminster Award

Two Royal Air Force Cadets were among the 10 finalists who gathered at the House of Lords in London for the prestigious Westminster Award.

Ben Hunter of 1461 (Wigston and District) Squadron, who was presented with The ILM Achievement Award, and Kacie Simmons, 54 (Eastbourne) Sqn, who received her ILM Level 3 Award in Leadership and Management from Nicky Pattimore, a group director at ILM, were joined by friends, family and Commandant Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty at the special ceremony.

The award ceremony is the culmination of the 10 finalists' hard work - the reward for making it through the initial nomination stage, the written submission and the rigorous Somerset selection event back in April.

All 10 finalists also travel to South Africa for a two week expedition.

CVQO Chief Executive Guy Horridge said: "Today there are winners who have overcome personal challenges, challenges at school and challenges in the cadets, but what they all have in common is not only have they successfully faced these challenges but they have never used them as an excuse or expected special treatment because of it."



"They have studied hard to earn their BTEC and Institute of Leadership and Management qualifications. They are in my opinion remarkable young people, mature beyond their years and I am delighted to say they have all joined a very special club by becoming CVQO Westminster Award finalists today."

The CVQO Westminster Award is an annual competition designed to recognise and reward the most deserving of CVQO's learners. ■

Flight training heads towards new heights

The first flight of the Texan T1 state-of-the-art training aircraft has taken place at RAF Valley.

The Texan T1 is due to replace the Tucano in the fast jet training programme and its forthcoming introduction forms part of a £1.2 billion investment into fixed-wing aircraft training under the Military Flight Training System (MFTS), the evolving programme that is designed to train and prepare junior pilots for the frontline.

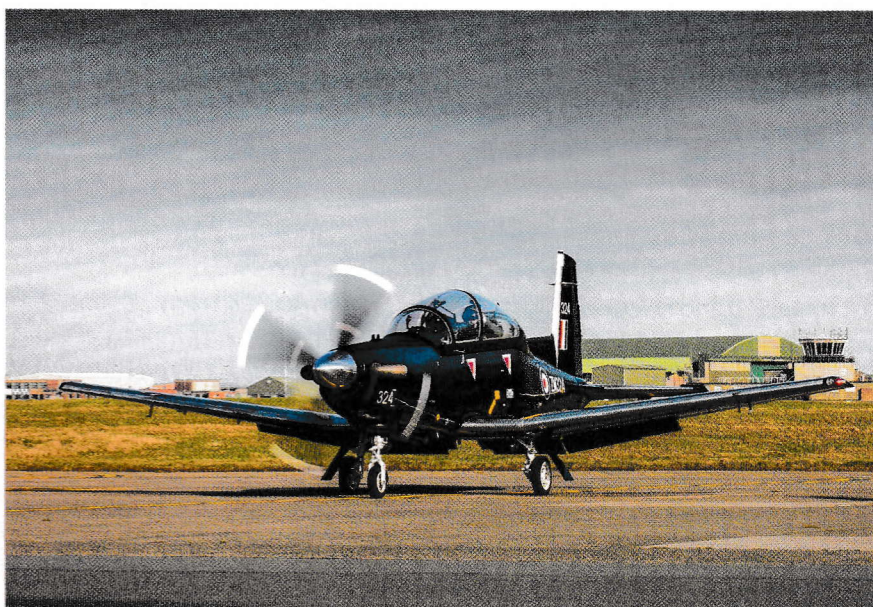
Defence Minister Stuart Andrew said: "It's crucial that our fighter pilots of the future train on the very best equipment before reaching the front line to protect UK airspace at home and defend our interests abroad."

"The introduction of the Texan T1 into one of NATO's most advanced Fighter Pilot training programmes demonstrates the RAF's commitment to investing in world-leading technology to maintain a military advantage over our adversaries."

The T1 has the ability to simulate missions in both 4th and 5th generation aircraft such as the F35 Lightning and Typhoon fast jets.

Wing Commander Chris Ball, Officer Commanding the Texan Integration Squadron at RAF Valley explains: "Under the Military Flying Training

System, fighter pilots will train on world-leading aircraft. They start on the Prefect, move on to the Texan and finish on the Hawk T2, making the training process more efficient and far more representative of the aircraft types they will eventually fly." ■





Bravery award for heroine Mum

A pregnant woman who risked her life to pull a retired air cadet instructor from his blazing car has been recognized for her bravery by The Royal Humane Society and Bristol & Gloucestershire Wing.

When Tracy Archer arrived at the scene of the crash on the A48 at Newnham, she ignored warnings from others there not to approach the blazing car with the badly injured driver – Squadron Leader Ken Bennett – trapped inside it.

Despite the smoke and flames, she managed to force open a door, release the driver's seat-belt and get him to safety.

Ken had suffered significant injuries so, until professional help arrived, Tracy kept him awake and alert by telling him about her family. Ken is certain that

he would not have survived without Tracy's intervention.

In recognition of her bravery and actions on that day, the Wing's Commanding Officer wrote to Commandant Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty, who issued a Special Commendation for Tracy's exceptional life saving actions.

The RAF Air Cadets were so impressed with Tracy's actions that she was nominated for a further award and has since been presented with the Royal Humane Society's Honorary Testimonial inscribed on Vellum.

Tracy (pictured) was presented with her awards by Air Marshal Sir 'Dusty' Miller RAF (Ret'd) and Wing Commander David Cox RAFVR(T) (Ret'd) at the recent Bristol and Gloucestershire Wing Dinner. ■

JLs boost for Foundation

The Qualified Air Cadet Junior Leaders on the recently-graduated Course 20 have raised more than £25,000 for the John Thornton Young Achievers Fund.

The cadets took on a range of fundraising events and challenges for the Fund, set up in memory of Royal Marine and former air cadet, John Thornton, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2008.

A spokesman for the Fund said: "We are totally overwhelmed by the support of these remarkable young people. Their commitment to John's Foundation and the support and encouragement that they provide is nothing short of inspiring.

"£25,000 is an incredible achievement and will make a massive difference to the opportunities that the JTYAF is able to provide for young people." ■

Top award

2344 (Longbenton) Squadron has received its ninth award from the High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear in recognition of the valuable services it provides to the community.

Presenting the award at a special ceremony, the High Sheriff, Mr Paul Callaghan, said: "The Longbenton Cadets have gone from strength to strength in recent years and it's only right to say thank you to them and to praise their latest achievements. The squadron makes a real difference in the community." ■

Farewell

Cadets and Staff of No 1 Welsh Wing are mourning the loss of one of their most respected and loved colleagues, Sqn Ldr Jason Cotter, who died suddenly earlier this year.

Jason was the Wing Health & Safety Officer as well as Officer Commanding 415 (Merthyr Tydfil) Squadron and its Brecon DF. He had also previously been OC 254 (Aberdare) Squadron.

He was a key member of the WSO team and had played a major role in improving the Wing's Health & Safety position.

He was present in all aspects of the Wing's activities and his common sense, humour and energy are greatly missed.

Jason was the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Officer for Aberdare, a former Wing Appeal Officer for RAFA and Treasurer for the Old Comrades Association.

He lived life to the full having a passion for motorcycling and horses.

His funeral at Llwydcoed Crematorium was attended by many representatives from the above organisations as well as cadets from 254 and 415 Sqns as well as the Regional Commandant, Wales & West. The Wing Padre, Father Bernard Jones, was the officiating Minister. ■



Royal event for cadets

Welsh air cadets had the honour recently of meeting the Prince of Wales.

Cadets and volunteers from 215 (City of Swansea) Sqn, who were granted the freedom of the city in 2016, lined the route for Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall.

The smartly dressed cadets, aged 12-19 years, met the Royal couple within the grounds of Victoria Park.

HRH The Prince of Wales is celebrating 50 years since his investiture by Her Majesty the Queen. In addition, Swansea marked 50 years as a city.

Flt Lt Phil Walker who took photographs on the day said: "It was scorching hot and the cadets and volunteers were delighted to meet Their Royal Highnesses. It was a day to remember!" ■

Flying Scholarship Success

Cadet Corporal Paddy Mitchell of 177 (Blackpool Airport) Squadron has been awarded a prestigious Sir Michael Knight Flying Scholarship by the Royal Air Force Charitable Trust.

Cpl Mitchell has already completed a normal Air Cadet flying scholarship at Tayside Aviation for which he was awarded his Air Cadet Pilot Scholarship (Gold Wings).

This new Flying Scholarship is a six week residential course at Tayside Aviation with a minimum of 33 hours' flying training, Private Pilot Licence examination modules and full access to online ground school training.

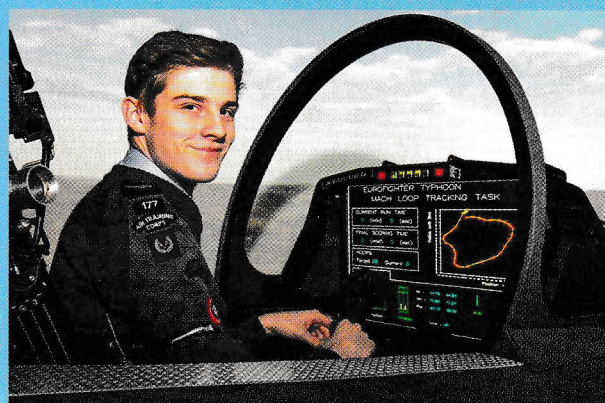
Cpl Mitchell, who joined 177 Sqn not long after his 13th birthday, has

always wanted a career in aviation and hopes to join the RAF.

He said: "This is an amazing award - to think I can get my PPL courtesy of the ATC and the RAFCT!

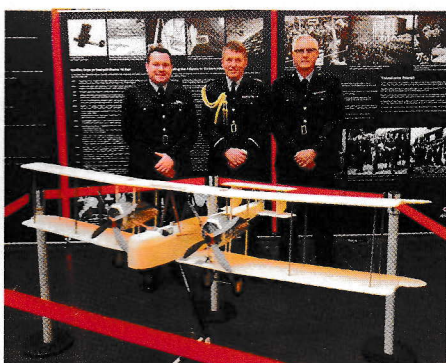
"Being a member of 177 Squadron has been one of my best decisions. All the staff there have helped me so much with achieving my future plans. I cannot thank them enough!"

Flight Lieutenant Andrew Nickson, Officer Commanding 177 Squadron, said: "This is an amazing success for Cpl Mitchell - it will really aid him with his



career plans. It also makes us two for two as we had a cadet awarded the same Flying Scholarship last year also. I could not be more proud of the success my cadets are making of themselves." ■

Centenary Celebrated



An exhibition, in collaboration with the Royal Air Force, marking the centenary of the first aircraft flight across the Atlantic, which was undertaken by RAF Officers John Alcock and Arthur Whitten Brown in June 1919, has been opened at Swansea Museum.

Brown had very strong links to Swansea throughout his adult life, working in the city for Vickers Limited in Wind Street,

living in the city, and also being the first Officer Commanding of Swansea Air Cadet Squadron.

The exhibition was opened by Air Officer Wales, Air Commodore Adrian Williams, who is pictured with the station commander of MOD St Athan, Wing Commander Stephen Rowley and OC No1 Welsh Wing, Wg Cdr Bob Timothy and the model of the Vickers Vimy aircraft. ■



Cadets at flypast to salute Heroic Airmen

Royal Air Force Air Cadets joined thousands of people who gathered in Sheffield to remember ten US airmen who died when their B-17 bomber crashed in Sheffield 75 years ago.

People travelled from around the world for the flypast, including military veterans and family members of personnel killed on the B-17 Flying Fortress aircraft, known as Mi Amigo.

The event was watched by Tony Foulds, 82, pictured top right, who was just a boy when he saw the aircraft, nicknamed Mi Amigo, crash while he was playing with friends in Endcliffe Park, Sheffield on February 22nd 1944.

He later learned the aircraft had been attempting a crash landing in the park and believes that the pilot deliberately steered away from him and his friends. Since the crash he has tended the memorial to the men at the park. The pilot Lieutenant John Kriegshauser was

posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions.

Following a chance meeting with BBC Breakfast's Dan Walker, who was amazed by the story, a social media campaign started to hold a special flypast to remember the men on the 75th anniversary of the crash.

Nearly 70 cadets and staff from across South & West Yorkshire Wing attended the ceremony and formed a guard of honour for Tony, veterans and various local dignitaries.

Cadet Sergeant Lewis Taylor, 15, from 366 (King Ecgbert) Squadron, said: "Today was a truly memorable day which forms a part of Sheffield's history. It was fantastic to welcome those from the United States

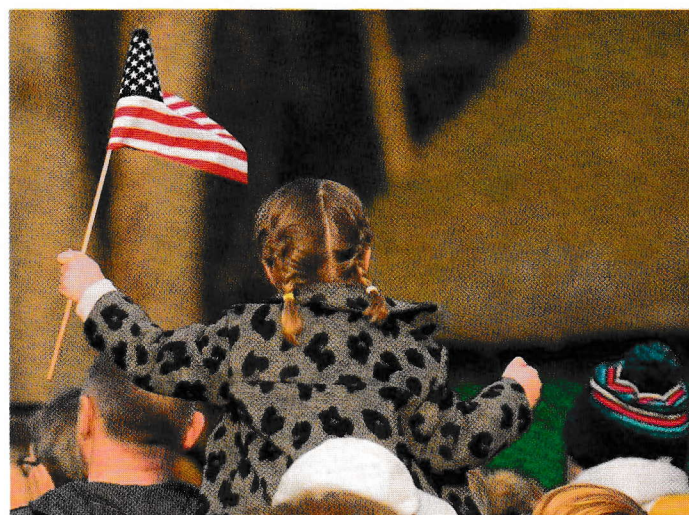
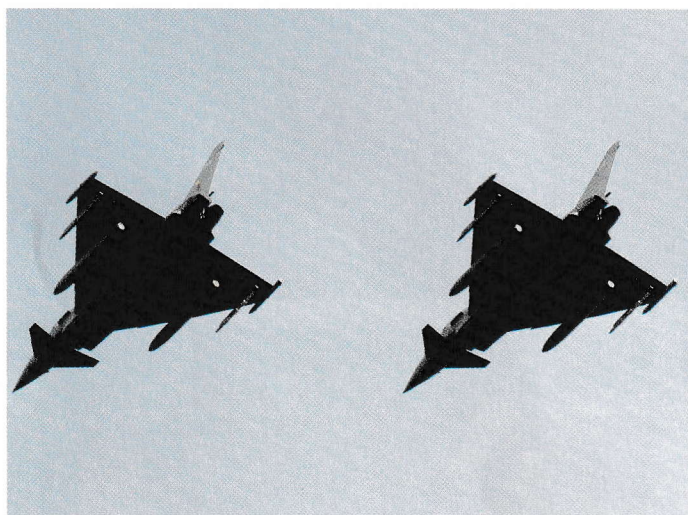
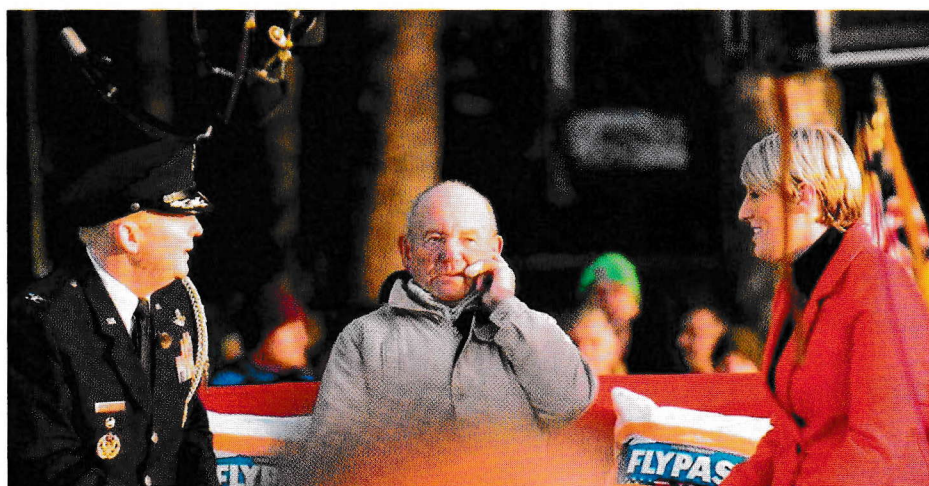
to pay tribute to the remarkable aircrew who sacrificed their lives during World War Two. Seeing the flypast of military aircraft was a fitting tribute to those who died and I'm incredibly proud to have taken part."

Seventeen-year-old Cadet Sergeant Robin Gibbons from 367 (South Sheffield) Squadron added: "I was touched to be part of the ceremony to remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. With myself and the other cadets being from Sheffield it was really special to see Tony's dedication to the memorial."

Wing Commander Brian Daniel who leads the Royal Air Force Air Cadets in South and West Yorkshire said: "It was

fantastic to see all our young people turning up to honour those who we owe a great debt of gratitude to. The cadets all looked exceedingly smart and did both ourselves and our parent organisation, the Royal Air Force, proud."

The flypast included F-15E Strike Eagles from the USAF and a Typhoon from the RAF. Wreaths were laid at the site of the crash during the event organised by the RAF Association and a memorial service was also held at St Augustine's Church, Endcliffe, Sheffield. ■





Centennial Wings takes flight

The first Centennial Wings Sting S4 aircraft – built by cadets in Northern Ireland – has flown for the first time into the Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford.



After two years and 400+ hours' build time, the ultralight aircraft – G-NIAC – made its public debut at RIAT last year.

Fast forward another 12 months and G-NIAC was flown to RAF Fairford from its temporary home with 2 FTS at RAF Syerston. The aircraft has received its initial permission to fly, after going through flight testing,

following certification by the Light Aviation Association.

The intention is that Centennial Wings, which was launched in 2016 with the support of Boeing, the Royal Air Force and the Air League, will enable many cadets to learn to fly over the years ahead.

The 'build a plane' project enhanced the existing RAF Air Cadets' curriculum by inspiring youngsters to study science, technology, engineering and maths

(STEM) through the hands-on practical application of classroom theory.

Anna Keeling, (pictured above) Managing Director of Boeing Defence UK, who visited Centennial Wings at RIAT said: "I want to congratulate the cadets from Northern Ireland for completing the build of G-NIAC, as part of our Centennial Wings project with the Air League.

"Seeing the plane fly into RIAT this year was a proud moment for me, since the

Words and Images: Philip Jones



project has benefited a large number of young people by giving them hands-on experience of STEM and developing their leadership skills.

"I hope the success of the project and what the cadets have achieved inspires other young people to consider a career in STEM. It's been an honour to support the project and we will continue to ensure young people have the opportunity to learn and flourish through Boeing's engagement programmes in the UK."

Eighteen-year-old Cadet Warrant Officer Mark Woods from 1137 (East Belfast) Squadron was one of the 15 cadets involved in the build.

He said: "I was 16-years-old and the idea of building an aircraft would never

come around again. I wanted a career in aviation and after this project I know exactly how an aircraft goes together and have a better understanding of aircraft electrical, hydraulic etc systems. It also helped with my Aircraft Technical exams for my Private Pilot's Licence. I really hope to be able to fly it."

Cadet Sergeant Mark Gunning, 17, from 825 (Bangor) Sqn added: "I was always interested in engineering and when the project was announced, I said 'I need to get involved in this' so I put my hand up and went for it."

"The project has totally lived up to my expectations. I have lots of knowledge now particularly regarding the how, when, where of using different tools. I am hoping that this will help my route to becoming an engineer."

Squadron Leader Aaron Coulter, who led the project with the support of Flying Officer Mark Fulton and Civilian Gliding Instructors Michael Jennings and Robert Cunningham, said: "It was a once in a lifetime STEM opportunity for all involved. The project came with its challenges but that is what kept it interesting and us motivated and allowed cadets to build on their existing skills and those that already complement the Air Cadet syllabus."

"As an RAF100 project there were aims to 'commemorate, inspire and celebrate' and we think that we have achieved all three goals!"

Nick West, Chief Executive of the Air League, added: "The Centennial Wings project has been an inspiring build programme, and the work of the team fully encapsulates the values of the Air League – Leadership, Endeavour, Ambition, Growth, Unity of Purpose and Empowerment."

"The G-NIAC aircraft will play an important role in helping aspiring pilots gain valuable flight experience, so that they can achieve their career goals." ■

“ I hope the success of the project and what the cadets have achieved inspires other young people to consider a career in STEM. ”





Royal Seal of Approval

Cadets and staff at 2344 (Longbenton) Sqn have received praise from Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge following a special tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice during the First World War.

As part of a year-long centenary project, the young people worked with Northumbria University's English department to research newspapers and magazines published more than 100 years ago in the trenches.

Cadet Tiger Wu, 15, said: "We analysed the poem For the Fallen, identified features in magazines and looked at objects from the war so that we could then come up with our own stories, poems, comic script or art work."

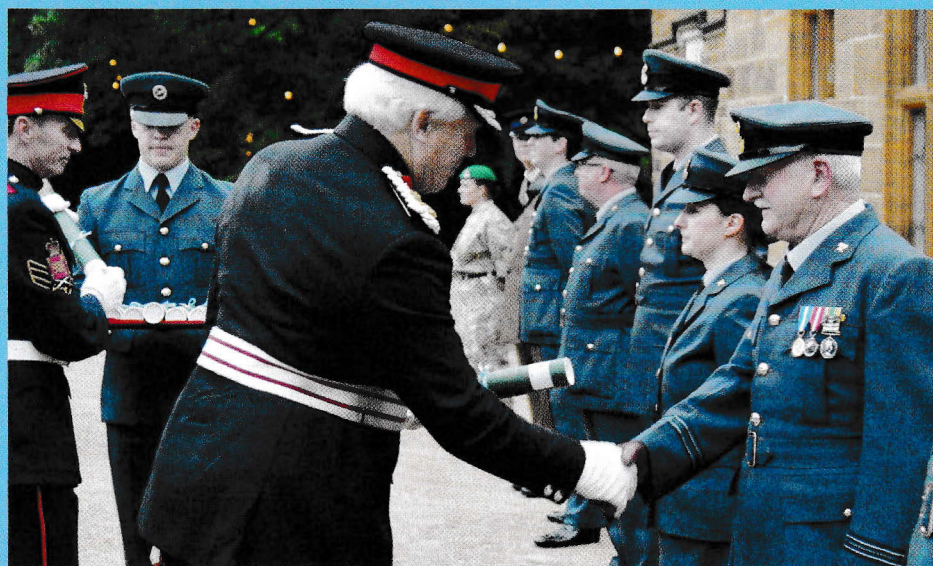
The cadets then created their own work, which was put together in a book to commemorate The Great War.

"We then sent a copy to Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and we got a reply!" said Rebecca Leitch, 16,

In the royal letter, The Duke and Duchess, thanked the cadets for sending them a copy of the book, titled Frontline.

Rebecca said, "It was great to receive the royal letter and we're really pleased that the book has been enjoyed by those at Kensington Palace."

Image: Civilian Instructor Georgina Cassidy ■



Scrolls presented

Against the backdrop of Northampton's Delapré Abbey, The Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire presented the new Cadet Forces Commission scrolls to Officers from across the three Cadet Forces.

Among the recipients were Officers of the Royal Air Force Air Cadets from squadrons within Northamptonshire as well as representatives of South and East Midlands Wing led by the Wing's Officer Commanding, Wing Commander Andy Pass.

The Queen's representative for the County, The Lord Lieutenant, Mr David Laing,

personally presented each Officer with their commissioning scrolls.

The Lord Lieutenant also presented the Cadet Forces Medal and first clasp to Flight Lieutenant Sean Kelly and a Commandant Air Cadets' Certificate of Meritorious Service to Flight Lieutenant Helen Roberts.

The recipients were: Wing Commander Andy Pass, Squadron Leaders Kev Ritchie and Carol Haynes; Flight Lieutenants Sean Kelly, Paul Ferguson, Colin Harmer, Darrell Hill, Helen Roberts and Flt Lt (Retired) Graham Holloway, Flying Officer Phil Warr and Pilot Officers Dawn Upton and Rico Gilbert. ■

New Regional Media Course

The Skyways facility at RAF Wyton was the venue for the launch of the Central and East Region's new Media Course.

Aimed at Squadron Media and Communication Officers, the course covered the use of the RAF Air Cadet branding, press release writing, use of the many differing media platforms, engaging with the public, photography and making use of media opportunities.

The course, lasting one information-packed day, is open to all levels of volunteer staff and senior cadets tasked with promoting their squadrons within their communities.

The Regional Media and Communications Officer, Squadron Leader Al Munns, said: "It is crucial that we take every opportunity to promote what we do and to inform the public about our fantastic organisation that does so much for the youngsters within our local communities. Without a doubt, the RAF Air Cadets are a leading youth organisation and we need to get that message across utilising whatever media platform is available."

It is planned to hold the next course towards the end of the year. ■

Lightning Strike

Defence Minister Mark Lancaster has welcomed the arrival of a second training squadron of state-of-the-art F-35 Lightning jets to RAF Marham.

The arrival of 207 Squadron will see all training on the next-generation jet conducted in the UK for the first time.

Minister for the Armed Forces Mark Lancaster said: "The arrival of 207 Squadron represents another milestone in the progress of this world-beating aircraft.

"As we welcome 207 Squadron home from our US allies, the transatlantic military relationship continues to be the strongest and deepest of any two nations in the world."

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier, former Chief of the Air Staff, said: "I was delighted to see the second squadron of the most advanced and dynamic fighter jet in our history arrive RAF Marham.

"Being able to train our pilots in the UK is another great leap in our sovereign capability and will ensure the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy can train our pilots to fight and win with these extraordinary jets, which will sit at the heart of our country's globally deployable forces."

Since 2013 Royal Air Force and Royal Navy personnel have trained alongside US Marine Corps counterparts at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort.

Six of the cutting-edge aircraft took the 10-hour flight from MCAS Beaufort in South Carolina. The formation included the UK's 18th Lightning fighter jet, demonstrating the UK's progress towards meeting the projected order of 138 aircraft over the life of the programme.

The first F-35 pilot course at RAF Marham is due to commence in early-September. ■

Image: Crown Copyright 2019



Blooming marvellous!

For 20 years, the light blue uniforms of cadets from 42F (King's Lynn) Squadron have been seen on parade at the Sandringham Flower Show where they have the honour of meeting members of the Royal Family.

Thousands of visitors flock to this annual show in Norfolk for which the current royal patrons are Their Royal Highnesses Prince Charles and Camilla Duchess of Cornwall.

The politeness, smartness and all round professionalism of the cadets has, over the years, seen their duties increase to now include lowering the Union Flag and raising the Prince of Wales' Standard as he arrives on the showground.

Cadets now also follow the royal couple as they visit the flower tents and various other marquees to assist with carrying the numerous gifts presented to them.

Committee Honorary Secretary, Julie Lister, said: "This is a fantastic day for 42F's own cadets but more importantly it is a showcase event for the Air Cadets nationally. We get so many good reviews about them from the show visitors." ■



A black Apache helicopter is shown from a low angle, flying towards the viewer. The background is a massive, intense fire with bright orange and yellow flames. The helicopter's main rotor blades are visible at the top, and its landing gear and various sensors are clearly visible.

A feast of **Flying**

The wall of fire - the grand finale of the display by the Army Air Corps Apache Display Team at the Royal International Air Tattoo

Words: Flt Lt Taz Bhachoo
Images: Philip Jones and Crown Copyright

The airshow, whose theme for 2019 was **Air & Space: Inspiring the Next Generation Air Force**, attracted 170,000 visitors including British astronaut Major Tim Peake (see pages 6 and 7).

In total, 245 aircraft from 39 air arms representing 25 nations took part in the event. There were several spectacular aerial set pieces including a unique joint flypast by the RAF Red Arrows and a specially-painted British Airways Boeing 747 jumbo jet to mark the airline's centenary.

NATO's 70th anniversary was marked by a commemorative flypast by aircraft from a number of member nations including F-16s from Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands and Norway. They were joined by three RAF Typhoons, F-15s from the US Air Force, a German Typhoon and a French KC-135.

Other set pieces staged during the three days included a joint flypast by the Red Arrows and French aerobatic display team the Patrouille France, plus a rare joint formation by an Airbus A400M and civilian aerobatic team The Blades.

On the ground more than 1,000 cadets and Cadet Forces Adult Volunteers (CFAVs) formed the tour-de-force that enables the world's largest Air Show to take place.

Inspiring

Air Marshal Sir Kevin Leeson, chairman of the Royal Air Force Charitable Trust, said: "As an Air Show we wanted to inspire the next generation and the RAF Air Cadets did not disappoint. 2019 was a roaring success and we were delighted to see the RAF Air Cadets launch their very own 'Space Programme' in collaboration with the Open University.

"The cadets and staff that attended RIAT 2019 allowed themselves to be inspired by the amazing displays, fusion of cultures, people, excitement and innovation on show but they themselves inspired so many people at the show with their sheer determination, hard work and fun-spirit that reminds everyone what RIAT is about.

"The Charitable trust is grateful for the support they give us year on year and

Royal Air Force Air Cadets enjoyed the feast of flying served up at this year's three-day Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford.



in turn we are delighted to inspire the next generation!"

Reach for the stars

RAF Air Cadets attending RIAT 2019 were invited to attend a Q&A session with former NASA astronaut, Robert Curbeam. Hosted by RAF Air Cadets Ambassador, Honorary Group Captain Carol Vorderman, 20 lucky cadets were given the opportunity to quiz 'Beamer' about his experiences as an astronaut, his

inspiration and what it was like on one of his many space walks!

Gp Capt Vorderman said: "Beamer's story is like no other. I was delighted to see how his story has opened the eyes of our fabulous Air Cadets and made them realise that they have potential to literally reach for the stars!"

Pulling out all the Stops

A highlight for the cadets and CFAVs on RIAT this year was an 80-seat mobile

theatre showing some of the latest films. More than 800 cadets and staff were treated to 10 showings over the show days and it was a great way to relax after a long day working the Air Show.

Corporal India Bolger from 46F (Kensington) Squadron said: "The cinema is such a cool idea for a supercamp and a great way to unwind with friends after a long day! I can't believe we got to see some of the latest films!"



Cadets and staff from 2496 (Cumbernauld) Squadron were thrilled to receive a top award from the Trustees of the charity Flying Scholarships for Disabled People at this year's Royal International Air Tattoo.

The squadron was awarded the Sir Douglas Bader Trophy for outstanding contributions and volunteering in assisting the charity since 2013.

The award was presented by Air Officer Scotland Air Vice Marshal Ross Paterson (far right) in recognition of Cumbernauld Squadron's assistance and support of the charity and scholars over the years.



The Armee De L'air National Aerobatic Team, the Patrouille De France entertain the crowds at the Royal International Air Tattoo 2019



“This is a great way to reward the hard work of our cadets and staff.”

The Monday after the show is when the majority of our cadets and CFAVs conduct an airfield-wide 'FOD-Plod' to make sure all litter is clear before the aircraft take off.

British Forces Broadcasting Service came to the rescue once again with their ice-cream truck providing treats for all cadets and staff as a thank you for a job well done.

The final surprise from BFBS was a concert that evening. Tribute acts and a DJ entertained the staff and cadets as a final salute for all their hard work, dedication and commitment over the last two weeks.

Squadron Leader Ollie Dalton, OC Operations at RIAT, expressed his thanks to BFBS for their support. He said: "This is a great way to reward the hard work of our cadets and staff and for the whole

camp to let their hair down and celebrate another great year at RIAT!"

Sky High

The Red Sparrows competition, which recognises the 12 best cadets under-15 who are attending RIAT for the first time, was once again hosted by the Friends of the Royal International Air Tattoo and the air traffic control team at RAF Fairford.

Cadet Brodie Williams, one of the 12 Red Sparrows, looked back on what he says was "an epic day! The first class treatment from the outset, VIP seats and exclusive Air Traffic tour was absolutely brilliant!"

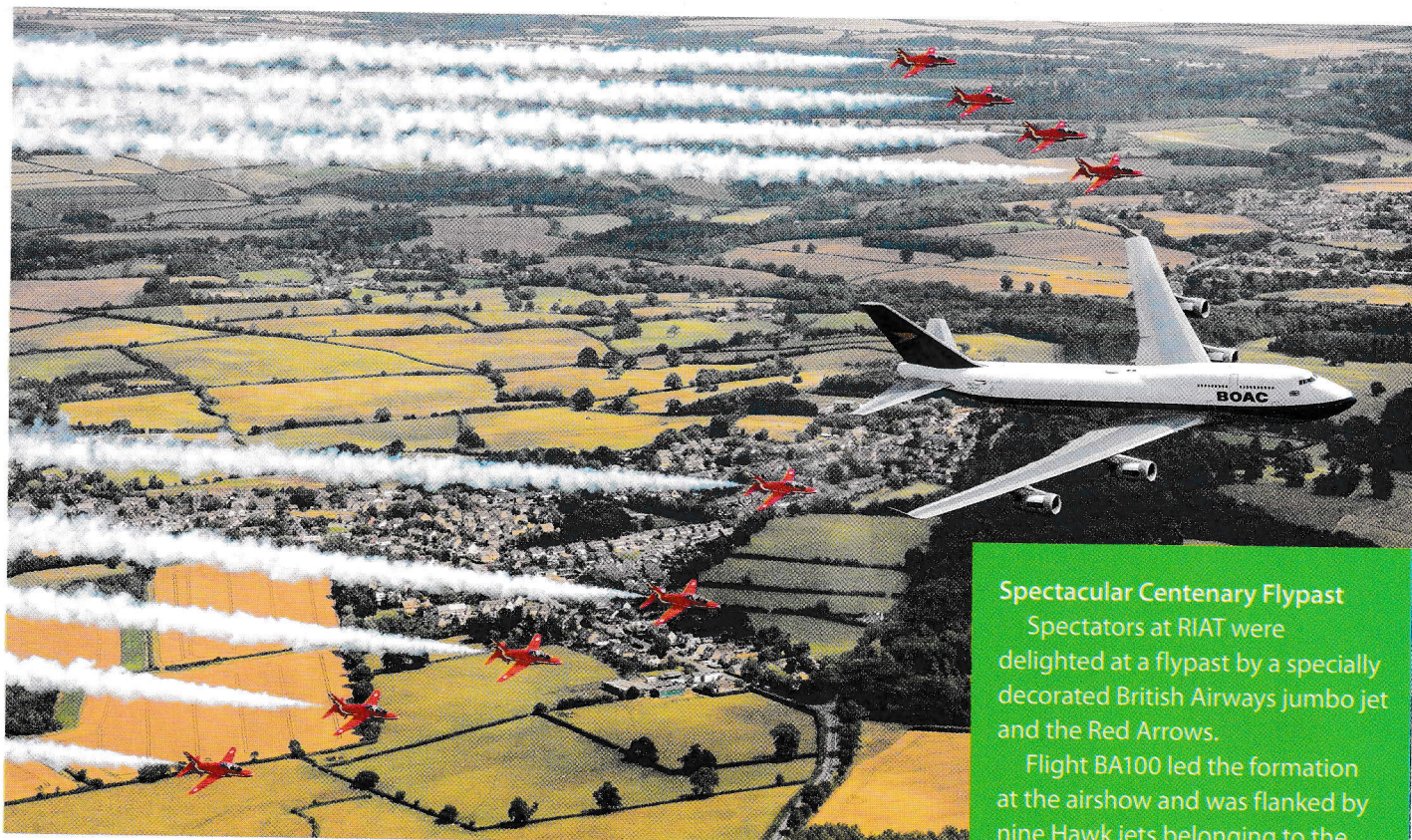
Air Tattoo Chief Executive Andy Armstrong said: "The past three days have been out of this world. We've seen

an incredible display of aircraft from around the globe both in the air and on the ground as well as some memorable, unique joint flypasts.

"With the Air Tattoo taking place on the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing, we've also had the opportunity to inspire our thousands of young visitors who've been discovering some of the exciting ways space will play a part in their future."

Reflecting on what became another huge show, Wing Commander Darran Williams, Detachment Commander RAFAC RIAT, said that he was "indebted to the cadets and CFAVs who make this Air Show work.

"The RAF Air Cadets are that cog that keeps on turning within the RIAT machine. To do it this year, in one of the hottest RIATs on record is fantastic. Thank you for all your efforts, you've earned a well deserved rest but get ready to gear up to 2020 soon!" ■



Spectacular Centenary Flypast

Spectators at RIAT were delighted at a flypast by a specially decorated British Airways jumbo jet and the Red Arrows.

Flight BA100 led the formation at the airshow and was flanked by nine Hawk jets belonging to the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team – trailing British Airways' signature red, white and blue colours.

The special Boeing 747 has been painted in the airline's predecessor British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) livery to mark British Airways' centenary this year.

Captain Richard Allen-Williams, who was in command of the aircraft, said: "We hope the sight of our BOAC liveried Boeing 747 provided a wonderfully nostalgic moment for the Air Tattoo audience. It was a huge honour for us to fly alongside the Red Arrows at RAF Fairford and to do so in our centenary year is even more special."



A Ukrainian Air Force Sukhoi Su-27 Flanker stands out against the dark clouds at this year's Royal International Air Tattoo

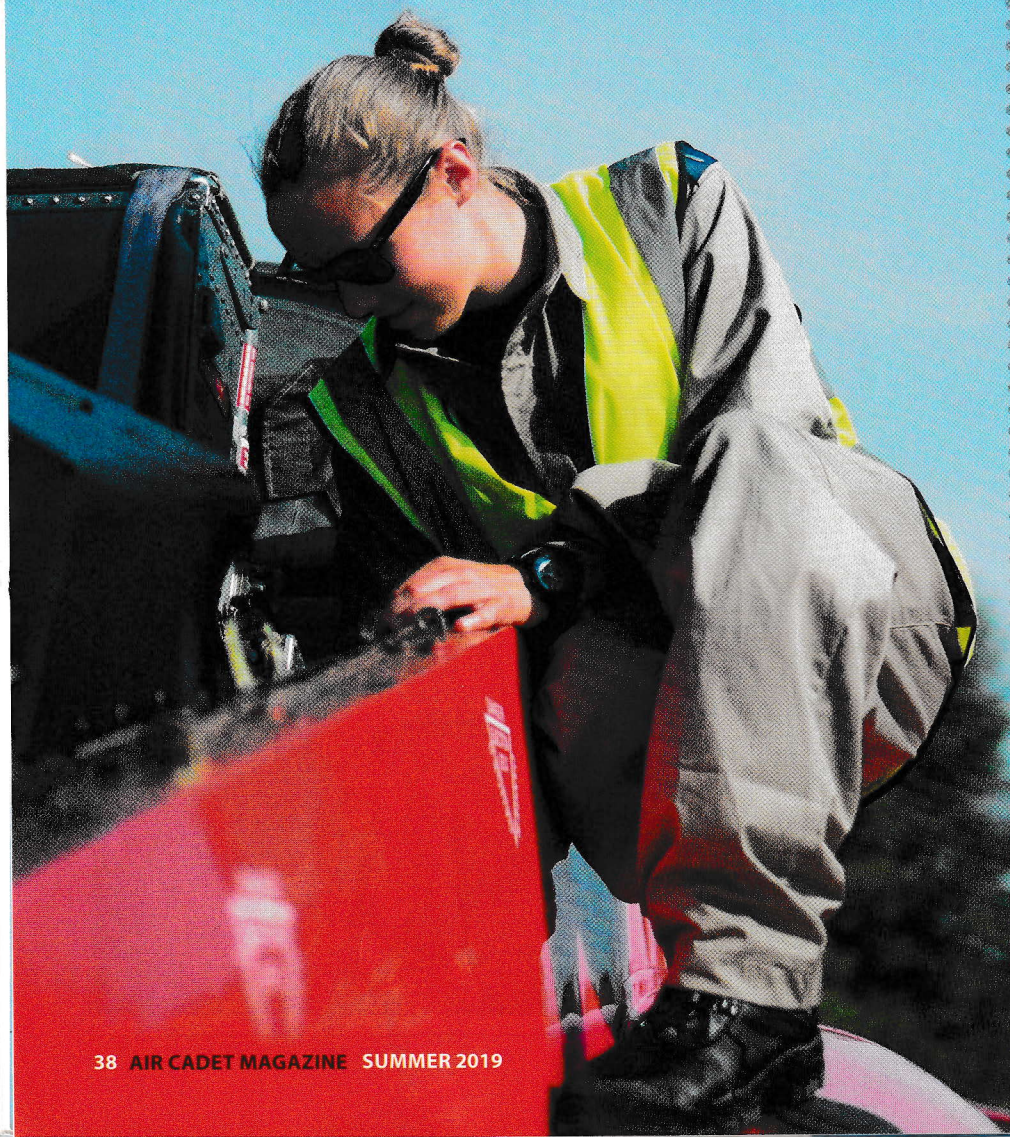
Back for a third year working at RIAT is 18-year-old Cadet Sergeant Jerel Yankah, a member of the Royal Air Force Section of Russell School's Combined Cadet Force. During his downtime, Jerel was getting a close look at some of the nearly 250 aircraft on view. Here he is being shown round the RAF's newest trainer the Beechcraft Texan T Mk1 (see page

58) operated by 72 Squadron RAF. In discussion with pilot, Flt Lt Joe Dale, Jerel asked about the aircraft and its role as well as routes into the RAF as a pilot. Jerel said: "I have always been fascinated by aeroplanes and want to be a pilot. However, I am also interested in the engineering behind the aircraft and this way we can get it demonstrated to us."



There is 'No Ordinary Job' in the RAF ...

The Royal Air Force offers more than 50 different job roles and apprenticeships for young people from the age of 16. With everything from chef and catering to technical and engineering opportunities – the options available are diverse no matter how you performed in your GCSEs or A-Levels.



“My family are extremely proud that I decided to join the RAF and my dad loves that I am part of the Red Arrows ...”

But the RAF is more than just a career choice – it is a lifestyle, with fantastic opportunities to explore the world, all while being paid a competitive wage to work alongside colleagues who quickly become friends.

You could be travelling the world with a famous aerobatic team before the age of 18 or in charge of 12 Eurofighter Typhoons that help keep Britain safe before you have even reached 30.

Whether you are looking for an apprenticeship to put money in your pocket and further your education or already have your sights on a long-term career as an RAF engineer or fast-jet pilot – the RAF really is no ordinary job.

Find out what's so great about our job roles by reading the stories of those who live them on a daily basis ...

SAC Ellie Morgan

When Ellie decided to leave school at the age of 17, she began to look at other career options. 18 months later and she is an Aircraft Mechanic working with the world famous RAF Aerobatic Team – the Red Arrows. So how did everything change so quickly? And what's next for a young servicewoman with the world at her feet? Read Ellie's story below ...

“I left education at the age of 17 after finishing my first year of A-Levels and deciding education was just no longer for me. Two years later and I find myself working with the Red Arrows!

“After applying to join the RAF I completed a 10 week basic training course at RAF Halton, which taught me standard military skills and set me up for the next stage of my career. Before I got

my first proper posting (job) with the RAF I also completed a six month trade training course which taught me the technical side of the job.

"The courses set you up for the rest of your career and you are taught everything you need to know, so you don't require an engineering background before joining."

"I was posted straight to the Red Arrows at the end of my training, which was a complete shock but a posting that I was very happy with. I currently travel all over the world with the team and am mainly involved in the servicing of the aircraft; working alongside the engineers. I also work closely with Team Leader, Red 1 - Squadron Leader Dave Montenegro.

"My family are extremely proud that I decided to join the RAF and my dad loves that I am part of the Red Arrows, so is forever talking about it and posting things on social media! It feels great to know that my parents are proud of me so early in my career. In the future I want to

continue to travel with the RAF – both overseas and around the UK. I am only 19, so still have my whole career ahead of me.

"If I could choose my next posting it would be to a squadron to work on fast-jets such as Lossiemouth in Scotland, where they have both the Tornado and Typhoon. But for now I am more than happy travelling the world with the Red Arrows!" ■

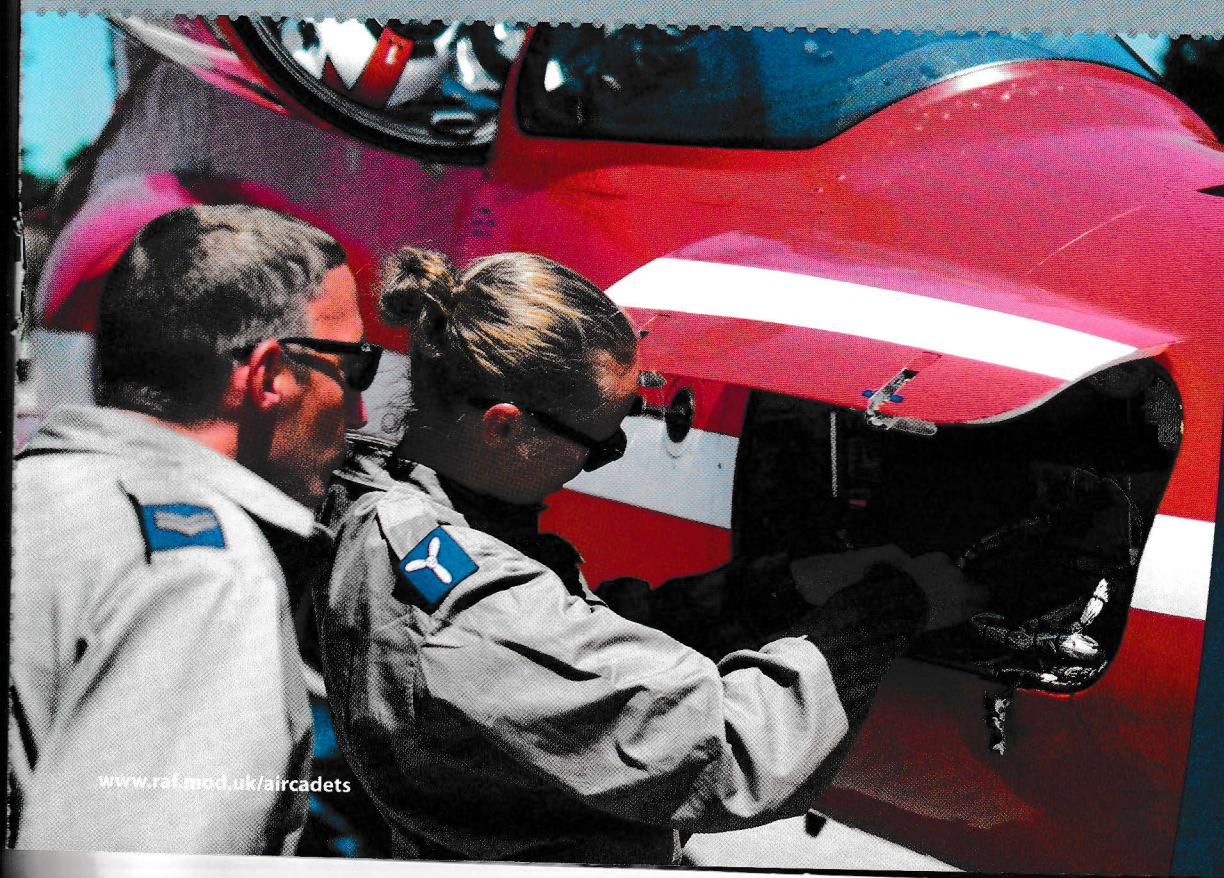
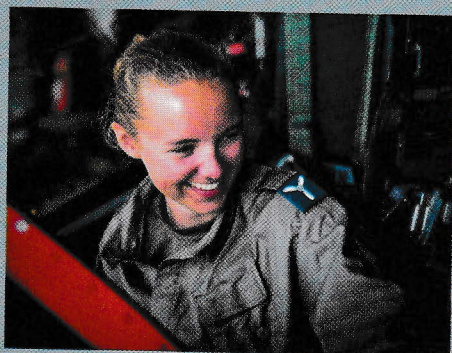
Flight Lieutenant

Harry Gopalakrishnan (Lucky)

Flight Lieutenant Harry Gopalakrishnan, also known as Lucky, always knew that he wanted to join the Royal Air Force. Lucky's interest in the Royal Air Force started aged 15 when a RAF Liaison Officer visited his school and gave a talk on career options.

Now aged 27, Lucky is flying-high in the RAF as an Engineer Officer based at RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire. So what is it like to be in command of 12 Eurofighter Typhoons before you have even reached the age of 30? Read Lucky's story below ...

"I decided I wanted to join the RAF before I had even sat my GCSEs. An RAF Liaison Officer visited my school and the information about the lifestyle of the air force was enough to make me sit up and find out more.





them, including opportunities such as playing sport, going on adventurous training expeditions and furthering your education.

"I can see a path of roles that I would love to take as my career progresses – either as the Senior Engineering Officer of a squadron deployed on operations, or by becoming the lead Engineering Officer on a RAF Station.

"As long as my future roles continue to give me the opportunity to command personnel, I can see myself fulfilling a hopefully distinguished career in the Royal Air Force." ■

“As long as my future roles continue to give me the opportunity ... I can see myself fulfilling a hopefully distinguished career in the RAF.”

The Royal Air Force's Latest Advertising Campaign #NoOrdinaryJob is now live on social media or by visiting www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment.

Visit the website or the RAF Facebook and Twitter accounts to watch videos of Ellie and Lucky show you why their role in the RAF is #NoOrdinaryJob. ■

"At Sixth-Form I was offered to be put forward for selection to receive RAF sponsorship. After fitness, aptitude and leadership assessments, I eventually received a bursary for university with a place on RAF Initial Officer Training (IOT) after my university graduation."

"My parents supported me: as refugees from the 1980s Sri Lankan civil war, they saw this as a chance to give back to a country that had given our family so much. Today I am the Junior Engineering Officer for a squadron of Eurofighter Typhoon aircraft; responsible for their engineering and for the 120 personnel who keep the aircraft flying.

The squadron's role includes holding Quick Reaction Alert (QRA) ensuring the RAF has aircraft armed and ready to take-off at a moment's notice to defend the skies of our country from hostile aircraft.

"The benefits which come with the RAF really are what you make of

 **ROYAL
AIR FORCE**
REGULAR & RESERVE

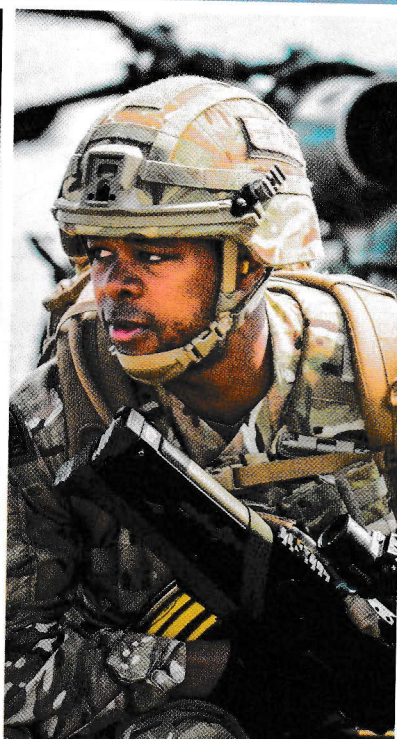
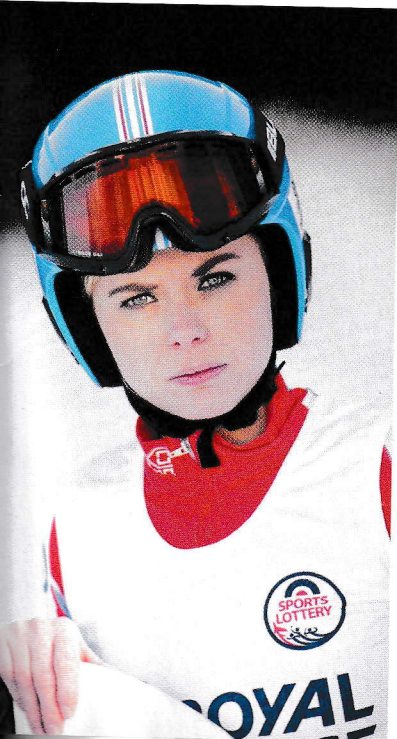
**NO
ORDINARY
JOB**

**RECRUITING
NOW**

**SEARCH RAF RECRUITING
0345 605 5555**

 /rafrecruitment

 @RAF_Recruitment





Leading the way at London Pride

RAF Air Cadets joined Royal Air Force personnel from across the country proudly showing the equality and diversity of the RAF during Pride in London Parade.

This is the 20th anniversary year of open trans service in the British Armed Forces and the RAF has been named one of the most inclusive employers in Britain by lesbian, gay, bi and trans equality charity Stonewall in its Top 100 Employers list for 2019.

Helping to celebrate the 20th anniversary was Cadet Warrant Officer Hope Maynard of 2495 (Hythe) Squadron

- the first cadet ever to march in the parade - who was joined by Pilot Officer Kai Burman, Officer Commanding XIX (Crawley) Squadron.

Also taking part and playing throughout the parade route was the Central Band of the RAF whilst the Red Arrows performed a flypast.

The parade, watched by thousands, set off from Portland Place, moving down Oxford Circus, along Regent Street to Piccadilly Circus, Lower Regent Street, Pall Mall and then passing Trafalgar Square before finishing on Whitehall.



Morris Trophy winners

Cadets from No 7 Overseas (Jersey) Squadron are celebrating after securing the Morris Trophy for 2018.

The prestigious trophy is awarded annually to the squadron that is judged to be the best at delivering the 'cadet experience'.

Competing against more than 900 other squadrons, the Jersey unit soared through local, regional and national inspection rounds to lift the title.

The road to victory began at the beginning of last year when the squadron submitted a detailed report on how the unit is managed and how the 12 core activities, that include flying, gliding, shooting, leadership training and First Aid, are carried out.

A number of thorough inspections followed and, at the final stage of the competition, were one of several squadrons visited by Commandant Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty.

Squadron boss, Flight Lieutenant Victoria Atherton, said of the win: "This is a vindication of the hard work that staff and cadets have been putting in for the past few years.

"It's an incredible achievement and not only does it mean a huge amount to me, but I know that the cadets and staff are so proud to be the best in the UK".

The trophy presentation took place in the hangar at Gama Aviation in the presence of the Commandant, supporters, parents and His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. ■





Making a Difference

A team of 10 Qualified Junior Leaders are heading to rural Africa on a three week overseas expedition.

The ten – pictured with Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty, Commandant Air Cadets and the Officer Commanding the Junior Leaders Course – were selected for this year's John Thornton Young Achievers Fund-funded Expedition to Ghana.

Working alongside Village by Village, a local charity, the 2019 expedition aims to complete the building of the John Thornton Presby Junior High School, which is replacing the previously condemned clay structure. This school, once completed, will be adopted by the Ghanaian government with funding and provision of teachers for at least 10 years.

In 2017 the Junior Leaders' expedition successfully completed the construction of a six-classroom primary school, ensuring safe accessible education for the younger children in the village for the first time in decades.

Last year, the Junior Leaders' expedition team returned to Obom with the aim of starting construction on a

proper high school, replacing the unsafe building and creating the opportunity for the children in the village and surrounding area to have access to full time education from pre-school to graduation in Junior High School at 18.

The 2019 team will focus on converting the block shell into a finished building. Works will include fully plastering, rendering and painting the building to protect it from the extreme heat and rain, as well as creating walk ways and steps for safe access to the classrooms.

A spokesman for the JTYAF said: "This challenging expedition offers a unique development opportunity for QJLs and the difference this project has made to the rural community is extraordinary and will have a lasting impact for years to come."

The John Thornton Young Achievers Foundation was set up in memory of Royal Marine and former air cadet, John Thornton, who was tragically killed in Afghanistan in 2008. The JTYAF provides opportunities for young people to help them to develop as individuals and fulfil their ambitions in life. ■

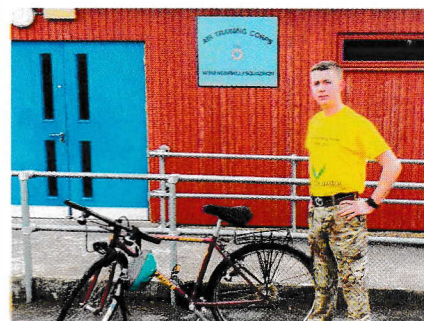
On your bike

Cadet Warrant Officer James Prockter has cycled 75 miles around the squadrons within the Eastern Sector of Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wing to raise money for The John Thornton Young Achievers' Foundation.

James, a former student on the challenging Air Cadet Junior Leaders Course, hoped to raise at least £500 for the charity that aims to help young people achieve their aspirations. The charity was set up in the memory of John Thornton, a former air cadet and Junior Leader, who was tragically killed in Afghanistan whilst serving with the Royal Marines in 2008.

James set out from 1094 (Ely) Squadron and finished his journey some 75 miles later at the Wing headquarters.

He said: "It was one of the most daunting tasks I have ever had to prepare for in my life. After the first leg, I gained a lot of confidence and tackled the rest of the journey in bite-sized chunks. It was an amazing experience and completing something like this does really make you feel as though you can tackle anything when you put your mind to it. Reaching that finish line has been one of the proudest moments in my life." ■



Triple success

Three cadets from 110 (City Of York) Squadron have been rewarded with promotion to Cadet Warrant Officer – all on the same day!

After a rigorous interview conducted by the Officer Commanding of Central & East Yorkshire Wing, Wing Commander Steve Wiggins, cadets Harry East, Ross Peterson and Thomas Grieves were overjoyed to learn that they had all been successful.

Squadron Leader Jo Tucker, Officer Commanding of 110 Sqn, said: "It's great to see the hard work and effort of the CWO team being appreciated by Central & East Yorkshire Wing and I'm extremely proud of all three." ■



National Award for RAF Air Cadet High Flyers

High flying
RAF air cadets
were honoured
recently at the
national awards
ceremony at RAF
College Cranwell.

Among the winners were Cadet Warrant Officers Jamal Ronald of 2288 (Montrose) Squadron and Emelia Jones from 1483 (Brentwood) Sqn, named the best male and female cadets respectively in the Air Training Corps.

The prestigious awards saw them beat 32,000 other air cadets from across the UK and abroad for the titles.

To mark the event, CWO Jones received the ATC 75 sword from Air Marshal Julian Young as did CWO Ronald who received the Dacre Sword.

The top cadet in the Combined Cadet Force (RAF) was CWO Grace Dobson of George Heriot's School CCF and she was presented with the Sir John Thomson Memorial Sword.

All cadets were interviewed in the finals of their competitions, in a "Dragon's

Den" style scenario at RAF College Cranwell. Nominees from each region were put under intense questioning by a panel of judges to find the winners.

The latter were joined at the awards event by other high achievers, including the best ATC sportswoman of the year, CWO Tara Walsh of 2463 (Currie and Balerno) Sqn and Cadet Flight Sergeant Daniel Brannan of 1982 (Huyton) Sqn.

The RAF100 Sword was presented to Flying Officer Mark Sonsthagen of 461 (Chichester) Sqn for his outstanding performance at the RAF Air Cadets' Squadron Commanders' Course.

The course is run at the RAFAC's Adult Training Facility at RAF Cranwell for volunteer officers who command the ATC squadrons.

The Ganderton Sword was awarded to Pilot Officer Scott Haynes of 493 (Kings Heath) Sqn and this is presented

to the top graduate from the Officer's Initial Course.

Dacre Sword Certificate to the Scotland and Northern Ireland nominee for the Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Jamal Ronald

Dacre Sword Certificate to the North nominee for the Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Joshua Clegg

Dacre Sword Certificate to the Central and East nominee for the Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Thomas Hill

Dacre Sword Certificate to the Wales and West nominee for the Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Felix Lambert

Dacre Sword Certificate to the London and South East nominee for the

By Denise Parker



Grace Dobson

Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Daryl Cortez

Dacre Sword Certificate to the South West Region nominee for the Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Chad Dodsworth

ATC 75 Sword Certificate to the Scotland and Northern Ireland nominee for the Top Female Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Laura Blythe

ATC 75 Sword Certificate to the North nominee for the Top Female Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Shannon Copeland

ATC 75 Sword Certificate to the Central and East nominee for the Top Female Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Olivia Wightman

ATC 75 Sword Certificate to the Wales and West nominee for the Top Female Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Jessica Forde

ATC 75 Sword Certificate to the London and South East nominee for the Top Female Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Emelia Jones

ATC 75 Sword Certificate to the South West Region nominee for the Top Female Cadet in the Air Training Corps - Cadet Warrant Officer Charlotte Moss

Five **Sir John Thomson Memorial Sword Certificates** for Nominees for the Top Cadet in the CCF (RAF):

Cadet Warrant Officer Grace Dobson of George Heriot's School CCF; Cadet Warrant Officer Reshe Harrison of Royal Russell School CCF; Cadet Warrant Officer



Emelia Jones

Georgina Horwich of Lady Eleanor Holles School, Hampton CCF; Sergeant Philip Taylor of Old Swinford School CCF and Sergeant Rhys Williams of Mount St Mary's College CCF.

Ray Alford Trophy - Top Graduate from the Junior Leaders Course 20 - Cadet Flight Sergeant Kai Palfreman of 31 (Tower Hamlets) Sqn

Cubby Sword - Top Graduate from the Air Cadet Leadership Course - Cadet Sergeant Jonathan Barrett of 868 (Mirfield) Sqn

Sir Roger Austin Sword - Achievement in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Squadron Leader Liz Green of Durham and Northumberland Wing

Alan Bagg Trophy - Top Male Sports Cadet in the ATC - Cadet Flight Sergeant Daniel Brannan of 1982 (Huyton) Sqn

550 Squadron Trophy - Top Female Sports Cadet in the ATC - Cadet Warrant Officer Tara Walsh of 2463 (Currie & Balerno) Sqn

Top Graduate from the Qualified Aerospace Instructors Course - RAF Linton-on-Ouse - Cadet Warrant Officer Grace Dobson of George Heriot's School CCF

Top Graduate from the Qualified Aerospace Instructors Course - RAF Boscombe Down - Cadet Corporal Jack Oliver of 1304 (Chippenhams) Sqn

Sir Michael Knight Pilot Scholarships: Cadet Warrant Officer Felix Lambert - 1223 (Caerphilly) Sqn; Cadet Warrant Officer Lawrence McDonald - 14F (Northolt) Sqn; Cadet Warrant Officer



Jamal Ronald

Mark Woods - 1137 (East Belfast) Sqn; Flight Sergeant Benjamin Hunter - 1461 (Wigston & District) Sqn; Flight Sergeant Lucy Tickell - 1509 (Blaydon) Sqn; Flight Sergeant Robert Weddle - 2311 (Glenrothes) Sqn; Sergeant Jack Lloyd - 1026 (Ormskirk) Squadron; Corporal Harry Karmel - Kings College Wimbledon, CCF and Corporal Patrick Mitchell - 177 (Blackpool Airport) Sqn.

Sir Geoffrey de Havilland Flying Foundation Pilot Scholarships: Cadet Warrant Officer Chad Dodsworth of 457 (Farnborough) Sqn and Cadet Flight Sergeant William Dinmore of 2267 (Brize Norton) Sqn.

Quinton Memorial Trophy - Top Graduate from the SNCO Initial Course - Adult Sergeant Heather Smith of 644 Volunteer Gliding School, RAF Syerston

Ganderton Sword - Top Graduate from the Officers Initial Course Pilot Officer Scott Haynes of 493 (Kings Heath) Sqn

RAF100 Sword - Top Graduate from the Squadron Commanders Course - Flying Officer Mark Sonsthagen of 461 (Chichester) Sqn

Sir John Thomson Memorial Sword for the Top Cadet in the CCF (RAF) - CWO Grace Dobson George Heriot's School CCF

ATC 75 Sword for the Top Female Cadet in the Air Training Corps - CWO Emilia Jones 1473 (Brentwood) Sqn

Dacre Sword for the Top Male Cadet in the Air Training Corps - CWO Jamal Ronald 2288 (Montrose) Sqn. ■



From left, Cadet Warrant Officer Michael Hastings, Group Captain Roger Simon, Regional Commandant Wales and West Air Cadets, Flight Lieutenant Chris Holloway, Officer Commanding 388 Sqn, Colonel Richard Maybery Ret'd, Chief Executive West Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty, Commandant Air Cadets, Wing Commander Sharrard Williams, OC Staffordshire Wing.

Stoke Air Cadets get keys to new £1.2million HQ

Air Cadets in Stoke have officially landed in their new £1.2million Headquarters in Cobridge in a special ceremony attended by Commandant Royal Air Force Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty.

One of the region's biggest RAFAC units, the recently formed 388 (City of Stoke-On-Trent) Squadron, are delighted with the state-of-the-art building, which includes a new rifle range and cyber communications suite.

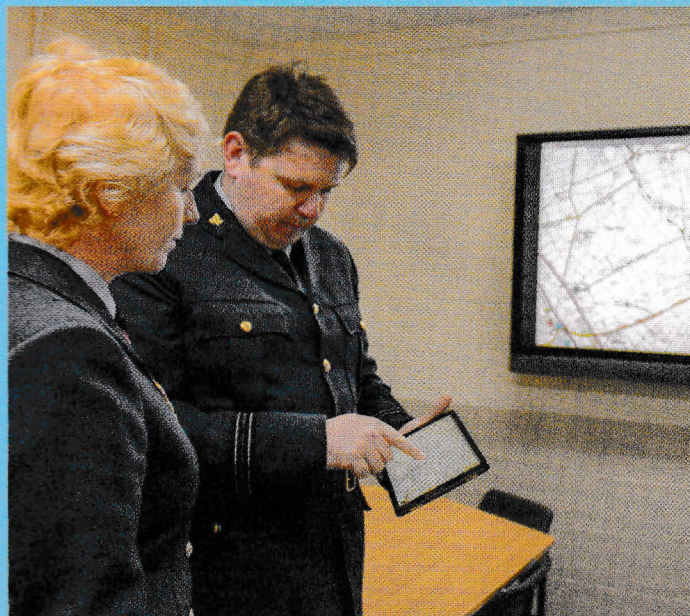
The new squadron, which was created from the merger of three local units in Hartshill, Longton and Cobridge, will use the purpose-built facility to provide its 80 cadets with high quality training and exciting 'once-in-a-lifetime' opportunities.

witness the key handover between West Midlands Reserved Forces and Cadets Association (WMRFCA), who led the build project and will continue to maintain the facility going forwards, to the staff and cadets of the squadron.

In a special ceremony, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty visited the building to

As well as a key handover, and a chance for cadets, staff and parents to view the new building, Air Commodore

Words and Images: Sqn Ldr Jarrod Williams



McCafferty also took the opportunity to present a host of Duke of Edinburgh Awards to the assembled cadets, including an astonishing 17 Gold awards. Two volunteers also received awards for long service to Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

Construction of the new unit began in February 2018 on the site of the former Cobridge Army Reserve. The building features photovoltaic solar panels generating enough energy for the building to be self-sufficient, as well as modern training spaces for up to 120 cadets, kitted out with interactive teaching aids.

State of the Art

The site also features a 25-metre four-lane shooting range, with state-of-the-art CCTV target system to assist the volunteer staff in the coaching cadets with their accuracy.

The building also has a kitchen, office space and storage for the squadron's equipment, as well as a large car park and parade square. The HQ also features monitored alarms and CCTV.

Cadet Warrant Officer Michael Hastings, a 19-year-old cadet from Tunstall, had the role of escort to Commandant Air Cadets during her visit.

He said, "Our new HQ is excellent. I've had the chance to visit lots of other

local Air Cadet units and ours really stands-out. I escorted Air Commodore McCafferty and so got to be one of the first to see our new home.

"She was really impressed and was keen to hear all about the journey we'd been on, and what I thought of the facilities. All of the classrooms look great, and have some really modern features, and it's brilliant we have our own rifle range and IT suite.

"Some people thought it might be a disadvantage, bringing together three cadet squadrons, but I have only seen positives. We're getting to make loads of new friends, learn new ways of doing things, and now we have somewhere we can call our own under the name 388 (City of Stoke-On-Trent). We know we're really lucky and can't wait to be in the building completing our training and getting stuck into our activities."

Officer Commanding 388 Squadron, Flt Lt Chris Holloway, received the keys from Colonel Richard Maybery, CEO of West Midland Reserve Forces & Cadets Association.

Col Maybery said, "WMRFCA is delighted today to hand over the keys to the new cadet site at Cobridge to the RAF Air Cadets and 388 (City of Stoke on Tent) Squadron. This has been an exciting and complex project which expanded in scope during the build

process. It's fantastic to see it now culminate in a really first class facility, located in the centre of the community at Cobridge, which will enhance the cadet experience for both the air cadets and their adult volunteers."

Amazing

Officer Commanding Staffordshire Wing Air Cadets, Wing Commander Sharrard-Williams, said: "This is an amazing facility for young people in Stoke and is fantastic investment by the MOD into our community.

"I know all our cadets are excited to get into the building and start using the facilities, which are some of the best not just in Staffordshire, but in the entire country. Of course, we are extremely grateful to WMRFCA for delivering such a great place for 388 to call home, as well as all the local community members who helped secure the continued presence of the Air Cadets in the city.

"This is an exciting time for this brand new squadron. From this base, cadets will get to take part in some amazing activities, such as earning the Duke of Edinburgh Award, which we recognised this evening by presenting an astonishing 23 awards across all levels, as well a training in first aid, leadership, radio, cyber security, drone operations, drill, engineering, flying, target shooting and much more." ■



346 (Tynemouth) Squadron cadets were invited for a behind the scenes look at RAF Boulmer by former 346 cadet, Wg Cdr Alastair Jackson, who is in charge of RAF Boulmer's School of Aerospace Battle Management.

Cadets go behind the scenes at **RAF Boulmer**

Award-winning air cadets have stepped behind the scenes to witness first-hand what it takes to operate one of the UK's and NATO's most strategically important RAF stations.

Words by Jane Hall
Images by Crown Copyright



Cadet Flight Sergeant Sean Sutherland and Cadet Chrysta Lois try their hand at a Tactical Engagement Simulator exercise.



Two cadets from 346 (Tynemouth) Sqn take part in a tactical training exercise.

The 10 cadets from 346 (Tynemouth) Squadron were given unique access to RAF Boulmer to see for themselves all the elements that go into running a military base in the frontline of the nation's air defence programme.

The youngsters were invited to spend a normal working day at the RAF station near Alnwick, Northumberland, after picking up a string of prestigious accolades, promotions and achievement certificates at the squadron's annual award ceremony.

Guest of honour at the event was former 346 cadet, now Wing Commander, Alastair Jackson, who is in charge of RAF Boulmer's School of Aerospace Battle Management (SABM).

A former Cadet of the Year winner himself, he was so impressed with the calibre of the top-performing teenagers that he extended an invitation to see what goes on behind closed doors at the station - home to not just the world renowned SABM, but the Air Surveillance and Control System (ASACS) which plays a vital part in ensuring the UK's skies are secure.

Alongside touring different sections, cadets had the chance to hone their indoor shooting skills on a computerised live firing range and to take part in aircraft simulator training and tactical and leadership exercises.

The cadets were also granted rare access to the subterranean Control and

Reporting Centre (CRC), where RAF personnel use sophisticated computer systems and advanced radar and communications technology to provide real-time awareness around the clock of aircraft within UK and NATO airspace, controlling and directing responses to threats.

“To see behind the scenes of RAF Boulmer has been a real privilege.”

The visit allowed the cadets to see the skill and hard work that goes into not just running an RAF base, but helping protect national security.

Corporal Luke De Vall-McMurray, 15, said: "It's been a fantastic day and one I am not going to forget in a hurry. To have the opportunity to see behind the scenes of RAF Boulmer has been a real privilege."

Cadet Chrysta Lois, 14, added: "It has been an incredible experience seeing how an RAF station is run day-to-day, and how the air defence system works. It's been the trip of a lifetime."

Wing Commander Jackson said being a cadet had helped shape his future. He added "It was great to be able to invite cadets from my old squadron to visit and to be able to show them the workings of an active RAF base on a normal working day, it has been a pleasure to see them taking part in hands-on training and other activities, and to be able to give them a better understanding of the essential role RAF Boulmer plays in UK defence.

"For the cadets, it has been a wonderful opportunity for them to actively participate in a tactical scenario, to witness what goes on at the School of Aerospace Battle Management, to see the Control and Reporting Centre in action, and to talk to serving personnel.

"I hope that now the link between RAF Boulmer and 346 (Tynemouth) Squadron has been established that it will be maintained, and that we can look forward to more such activities between us both in the future."

Officer Commanding 346 (Tynemouth) Squadron, Flying Officer Sara Allison, said it had been a 'money can't buy' experience. "We have had the opportunity to visit our parent station and to see things that the public would never have the chance to. We are all very proud to have been asked to take part in this visit and to have had the opportunity to take part in a raft of amazing activities." ■



Tornado Farewell

After almost 40 years of Royal Air Force service, the iconic Tornado jet undertook a series of finale flypasts around the UK.

Images: Crown Copyright



A formation of the long-serving fast jets toured the UK, overflying most RAF bases, including Royal Air Force College Cranwell, and other key sites associated with the aircraft.

Taking part in the farewell flypast, the boss of IX(B) Squadron, Wing Commander James Heeps said: "It is a great privilege to be part of a national event that allows the public to say farewell to a brilliant aircraft that has been the cornerstone of our operations for so many years. It's also a sad occasion because it will mean that from the end of March the Tornado will never fly again."

Also taking part was former Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier (pictured) who led the four-aircraft formation over RAF Lossiemouth.

He said: "As a Tornado GR4 pilot myself, I have seen the aircraft develop over its nearly 40 years of service into an outstanding combat aircraft, flown, maintained and supported by similarly outstanding air and groundcrew. The capabilities of the Force are underlined by its near continuous deployment on operations since 1990, serving with immense distinction in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Libya and the Balkans.

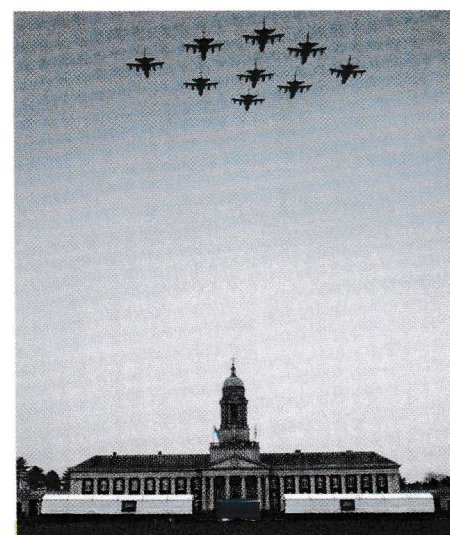
"I will personally be very sad to see the Tornado retire, but it is time now to pass the baton to our next generation

combat aircraft. The F-35B Lightning is now operational and the Typhoon is now fully multi-role capable and able to take on the Tornado's missions."

First entering service in 1979, the Tornado, nicknamed the "Tonka", has been used in operations across the world, most recently bombarding Daesh to push the terrorist group back through Syria and Iraq. After over four years on Operation Shader, on 5 February this year the aircraft finally returned home from operations for good.

In the immediate term, the Tornados will be replaced by new weapons capabilities for the Typhoon jet. Under 'Project Centurion', worth £425m over the past three years, the Typhoon now has deep strike cruise missile Storm Shadow, air-to-air missile Meteor and the precision attack missile Brimstone at their disposal.

The RAF's new fleet of F-35 Lightning jets will form the backbone of the UK's combat air fleet alongside the Typhoon jets in the coming years. The Tornado officially retired from service at the end of March and will only be used for training purposes over the UK in the intervening period. ■





Ad Astra

Thirty-eight cadets have graduated as Qualified Aerospace Instructors in a ceremony at RAF Linton-on-Ouse. It follows seven months of intense training across two centres - one at MOD Boscombe Down and one at RAF Linton-on-Ouse.

The cadets passed an intensive application and selection process to make the first weekend and, since then, have received expert instruction from adult volunteers with decades of experience.

The cadets' final challenge was to deliver air power presentations to senior

guests from the Royal Air Force, the Air Cadets and industry, before celebrating their success at a graduation dinner.

The course combines a focus on instructional technique with building a greater understanding of aerospace subjects that allows QAs to spread aerospace expertise across the RAF Air Cadets.

The students are given practical tuition on flight simulators and air traffic control simulators, learning how they

can be used to spread the aerospace message to cadets right across the UK.

Graduates go on to work on public engagement platforms at major events and play a key part in the delivery of the National Aerospace Camp.

They also get the chance to help develop the next batch of students on courses.

Speaking after the dinner, Officer Commanding Qualified Aerospace Instructors Course, Wing Commander Ia

Words by Connor O'Hara



Revell said: "I'm thrilled as always to see another group of young people graduate as Qualified Aerospace Instructors."

"Our students have to show dedication day after day to their work on the course, often combining the work we do with their own academic studies at school and college."

"Their effort is matched by that of our volunteer staff team, who use their expertise to nurture and develop the next generation of aerospace instructors."

"Our graduates all go on to do great things, representing the course and the RAF Air Cadets at public events."

"Even after they leave they continue to do us proud."

"Whether that's working for major defence companies, joining the Royal Air Force or the wider armed forces, or moving into commercial aviation, becoming a Qualified Aerospace Instructor is marker for further success."

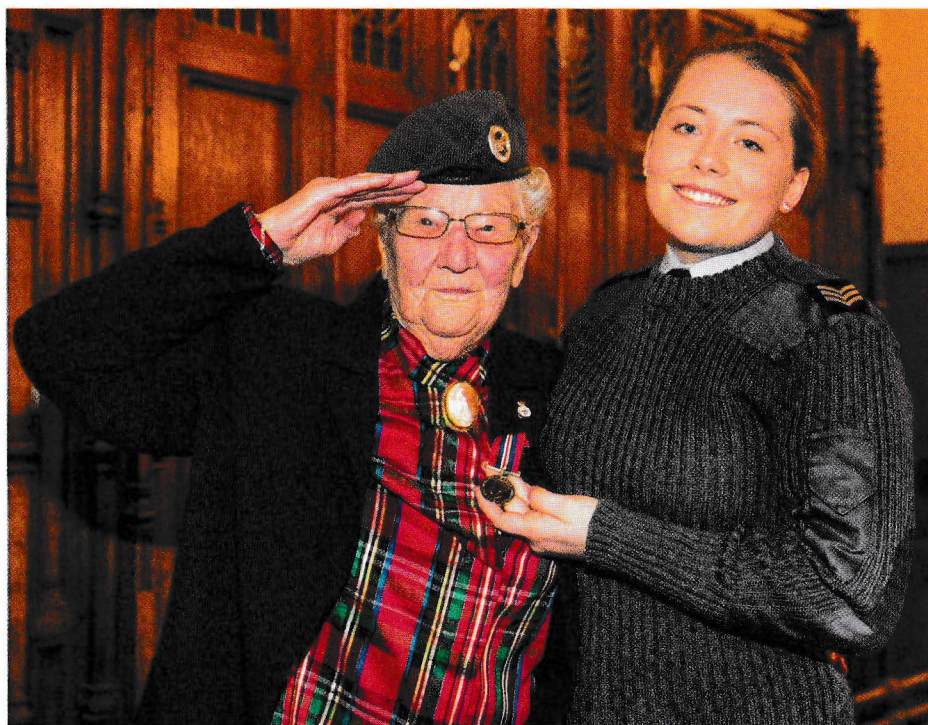
Any cadet in the Air Training Corps or Combined Cadet Force (RAF) can apply.

Applicants should be 16, a master cadet or equivalent and able to demonstrate a passion for aviation and an interest in instructing.

Those with questions should contact qaic@aircadets.org. ■

“Our graduates all go on to do great things...”





Cadet Samantha Terry, of 870 (Dreghorn) Squadron, presents RAF veteran Vera Clachers with her War Medal at a ceremony at Edinburgh Castle.



RAF Marham Station Commander Group Captain Cab Townsend chats to members of 723 (Wigan) Squadron at the RAFBF Awards.



Members of 723 (Wigan) Squadron meet former Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier at the RAFBF Awards.

Thanks Cadets!

The RAF Benevolent Fund's mission is to support the RAF Family and at the heart of that mission are our incredible fundraisers and volunteers, of which the Air Cadets are an important part.

Last year was an exciting one for the RAF Family as the Royal Air Force marked its centenary with a number of events and celebrations. For the RAF Benevolent Fund it was a busy year with fundraising and commemorative events, none of which would be possible without the unstinting support of the Air Cadets.

The fact there are too many events to list them all is testament to the Air Cadets' dedication; whenever the Fund calls, the Air Cadets answer – with a smile on their faces!

All this amazing support allows the RAF Benevolent Fund to continue supporting the RAF Family with projects like the Fund's flagship youth support scheme Airplay for young people living on RAF stations; to supporting a widow and her children left behind when an RAF Reservist was killed on duty; to supporting injured personnel as they transition out of the RAF and return to civilian life; or providing mobility aids and

care home top-up fees for elderly RAF veterans and their dependants ensuring they continue to live with dignity and comfort.

In June the Fund held its annual RAFBF Awards where three squadrons were celebrated for their contributions to the RAF Benevolent Fund in the ATC Squadron of the Year category: 870 (Dreghorn), 1927 (Petersfield) and 723 (Wigan) Squadrons, with Wigan being announced the winners. Plus 612 (County of Aberdeen) Squadron were also shortlisted in the Fundraising Team of the Year category. Nominations are now open for this year's Awards, head to www.rafbf.org/awards to nominate someone you think deserves to be recognised.

Another highlight took place in October when cadets were on hand to help present a medal to WAAF veteran Vera Clachers who had been waiting for the honour for more than 70 years. Fund chief executive Air Vice-Marshal David Murray read the citation before 17-year-

old Air Cadet Samantha Terry, from 870 (Dreghorn) Squadron, handed over Vera's medal in a surprise ceremony at Edinburgh Castle.

And there is more to come! In 2019, the RAF Benevolent Fund will mark its own centenary where we will launch a pledge to help more people than ever before. Anyone who has served in the RAF, be it for one day or 30 years, as a Reservist or Regular, is eligible for our help, and that support extends to the dependants of personnel, serving and retired.

Our ambitious plan to double the number of beneficiaries from 50,000 to 100,000 will only be possible with the support of organisations like the Air Cadets who can help us spread the word to those who may not know we can help and to raise vital funds to see that work done.

Watch this space to find out about other ways you can help the Fund mark this incredible milestone! ■

Royal Visit



Welling Air Cadets were on parade as His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent visited Crayford to officially unveil a new Alcock and Brown memorial sculpture.

The statue was commissioned to mark the centenary of John Alcock and Arthur Brown's first-ever, non-

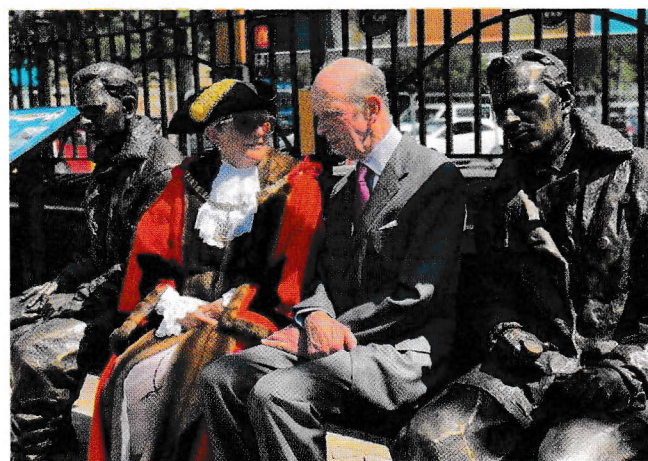
stop, trans-Atlantic flight in a Vickers Vimy, a plane originally designed and built in the Vickers Factory, in Crayford.

During his visit, the Duke officially unveiled the new sculpture bench in the town centre, designed by artist Tony Stallard.

Cadet Flight Sergeants Ellysha Franklin and Francis Bussey, who are the Deputy Lieutenant's cadets for the London

Borough of Bexley for 2018 and 2019 respectively, were privileged to join the Deputy Lieutenant of the London Borough of Bexley, Major Dave Hewer OBE in formally welcoming the Duke of Kent on his arrival.

Ellysha said 'It was a wonderful day, and amazing to be a part of something so historic and relevant'.



ATC SQUADRON WALL SHIELDS



Raised die-centre, beautifully reproduced in colour with your unit on scroll, 7" x 6" £50.70

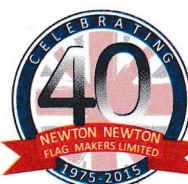
Hand Embroidered Blazer Badges £13.60

RAF Squadron Shields £54.55

All prices include second class post and VAT.
Also available, special order ties and many other promotional items.
Wall Shields to your Squadron, Wing or Unit design using special shaped centrepiece as illustrated right. Prices by quotation.



C H Munday Ltd,
Rosemary Cottage
Churt Road
Headley, Bordon, Hants, GU35 8SS
www.chmunday.co.uk
Email: enquiries@chmunday.co.uk
Telephone: 01428 714971



"Manufacturers' of flags and ceremonial standards"

"Our business is to make yours fly"

100 years
active Military
Family service
(still enlisted)
1914-2014



01754 768401
mail@newtonnewtonflags.com
www.newtonnewtonflags.com
[@newtonflags](https://twitter.com/newtonflags)
[f/newtonnewtonflagsltd](https://facebook.com/newtonnewtonflagsltd)

Newton

Newton
Ltd



The Royal Air Force Air Cadets National Marching Band took part in Britain's biggest indoor international tattoo in Birmingham joining thousands of performers to create a three-hour spectacle of pomp and pageantry.

Words and Images by Philip Jones

The band, considered to be a key ambassador for the Organisation, has given a number of high profile performances in recent years. As well as leading the Annual Bower Parade in Lichfield and supporting the Annual Inspection Parade at the Welbeck Defence Sixth Form College (where they were booked instead of a professional band), the band has taken part in the Lord Mayor's Show in the City of London and even played for the Prime Minister in the gardens of No 10 Downing Street.

The International Tattoo at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham has become a regular fixture for the band. They have been invited back to the two-day event on a number of occasions and always receive rapturous applause.

The event allows cadets to perform alongside other youth and professional bands from around the world and, for the older cadets, is their final public performance before moving on to new challenges.

Nineteen-year-old Cadet Warrant Officer Izzy Hughes from 1188 (Coalville) Squadron said: "I am really sad to be leaving. The band has developed so well but I hope to come back as staff. I have an audition for the Royal Marines Band Service in April and will, hopefully, start with them next September."

Izzy, who holds Grade 8 qualifications on both trumpet and as a vocalist, added "I have had some great experiences with the Air Cadets: the 75th Anniversary year events, solo performances at London's

Cenotaph and the Birmingham Tattoo – plus an International Air Cadet Exchange visit to Canada.”

CWO William Unwin, 19, from 1312 (Southend) Squadron was also attending his last major band event, having been one of the band's drum majors for two years.

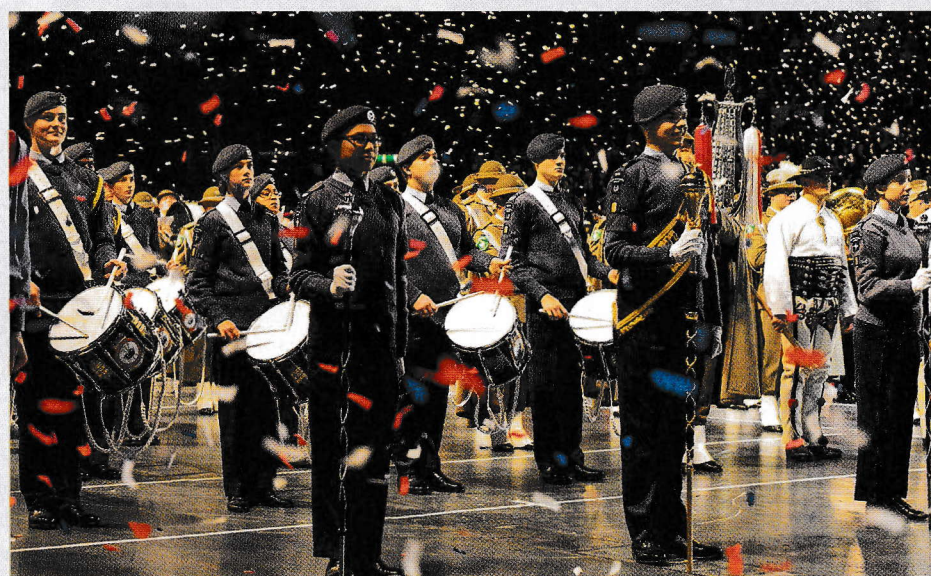
William said: “You do not know how much you will miss being a cadet until you age-out. I wish to thank the staff and my friends, who have changed me for the better. To any cadet thinking of getting involved in music, I can only say, ‘Do it!’” He hopes to join the RAF as a pilot this year.

Cadet Calum Stephens, 15, from 1271 (Bathgate) Squadron, who performed a trumpet solo, said: “These events are an amazing opportunity to develop musically. I have attended three one-week music camps as well as a number of performance practices. When I heard about the training camps, I just had to put my name down.”

As with many cadet activities, as members come from all over the UK, they often have to practise alone. They all attend a one-week training camp, however, in the summer. The music librarian then issues the scores to cadets so that they practise at home. Then, just a couple of rehearsals and one practice performance and it is time to perform for the public.

The Marching Band's Director of Music, Squadron Leader Andy White, said: “The performance by the National Band at Birmingham was truly fantastic and many of my colleagues in the world of professional military music have commented on the cadets' professionalism and musicianship.”

Want to know more about musical opportunities within the RAF Air Cadets? For more information, see the RAF Air Cadets' Music Services Facebook page or talk to your Squadron / Contingent Commander. ■





How to Write a News Story

Ever wanted to get yourself in the news but unsure of how to write a news release?

Words by
Denise Parker

Well it does take practice and not everyone will be an expert but if you follow the guidelines below you should be able to create effective news items without too much stress.

The magic four

Head of Media Comms at HQ RAFAC, Denise Parker, said: "One tip I often give people who are struggling to write is to think of four words that sum up your story.

If you have those they will immediately help you focus your headline and intro, the latter of which should be no more than 25 words.

"It's a simple trick to remember and one I developed quickly when writing and then editing news on large regional and national newspapers. It's fair to say that it can also be used for all types of writing – even for business reports."

So what comes next?

The second paragraph gives you another 25 words or under to add some detail and the third another 25, which will take the reader down into the background.

The inverted pyramid can help you understand what's most important. This refers to the style of journalism which puts the most important facts at the top and works downward from there.

This is important because sub editors or content editors always prefer to cut from the bottom if the story is too long.

Try to add two or three quotes to each story to give it authenticity and credibility. Some news papers and websites will only publish articles with quotes from three different individuals.

Make sure you cover off the six Ws – who, what, why, where, when and how.

If you are writing for a particular publication, study the style of writing that they use and try to emulate it in your copy.

Make it fact heavy but not flowery although the occasional appropriate pun is fine and makes it easier to read.

Your writing will improve over time – experience is everything but do try to stick with conventions:

a. For the media, the numbers 1-9 are normally written out – one, two...etc

b. Numbers 10 and over are written as figures;

c. Never start a paragraph with a number;

d. All improper nouns are lower case – i.e. the cadets, the exercise, the officers or civilian instructors;

e. Cap up proper nouns – formal names i.e Cadet Jo Bloggs; The Royal Air Force, Flight Lieutenant A N Other;

f. Keep your news story to 250 words or less – shorter for social media and websites;

g. Ensure full names and ages are used of individuals mentioned or quoted.

h. Say clearly which unit they are from but never give their home address or contact details.

Keep your copy people focused

People really enjoy reading stories about other people. They particularly enjoy human interest articles so make sure you include people in your story. Even if the article is really about aircraft

or new sports kit ensure the story is people centric. Interview the pilots or cadets who will fly the aircraft or those who will use the sports kit.

Include a quote from them on how it will make a difference to them. Add an image of people with the equipment to make it all complete.

Decide the “nose” of the article

Articles normally have a peg or “nose” on which the rest of the narrative hangs. Some call this a slant, angle or theme.

Unless it is an anniversary story, the history normally falls into the last few paragraphs. The latest most up-to-date information must be presented at the top.



VVIPs

If you have a VVIP story – Royalty, an MP or similar they should always be the focus so “Right Royal visit for cadets” or HRH The Duchess of Cambridge today visited Cambridge cadets...

Aliteration

You can use this effectively in headlines and in copy to sharpen it up. So, for example, Cornish cadets climb Kilimanjaro.

Keep it Objective

Make sure you are completely impartial. If there is more than one side to the story, cover them all by saying, another view/perspective is... Don't use “I” and “me” unless you are quoting someone. Speaking of quoting...

Avoid flowery language

News is factual so avoid using heavily descriptive phrases. Keep your copy clean. It is okay to use simple descriptors i.e. 15-year-old air cadet Chloe Smith.

Paragraphs

One sentence per paragraph.

If in doubt...

One of the oldest sayings in a news room is “if in doubt leave it out”. Your copy needs to be as accurate as possible so do not make assumptions or guess, it has to be sound, hard fact.

Tense

Always write in the third person i.e. HRH The Duchess of Cambridge met cadets. She then joined cadets for a drill exercise.

After the event,

Always write in the past tense.

Before the event

Write in the future tense if it is for publication before the event.

Blogs and personal columns

You can write these in the first person ...I went and I did.

Social media

Write in the third person for official squadron, wing, regional and CCF sites.

Feature writing

Normally at least 1,000 words so planning the structure is important. Know what your intro is and your final paragraph and work from there. Ensure the copy flows from one point to the next smoothly.

Proof reading

Always proof your own copy and ask someone with excellent English to proof it for you too. A fresh pair of eyes is often useful at picking up grammatical errors and typos even if you have been writing for years. ■



Cadet Expansion Programme meets target for new units

The RAF Air Cadets has met its target of setting up another 20 new cadet units in state schools as part of its ongoing commitment to the Cadet Expansion Programme.

The programme was launched on Armed Forces Day in June 2012 by the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister with the aim to deliver 100 new cadet units in English state-funded schools by September 2015. Backed by the Ministry of Defence and by the Department of Education to the tune

of £10.85 million, the programme was established so that more young people can benefit from the cadet experience in school.

Under this initial phase, the RAF Air Cadet organisation was tasked with setting up 10 new Sections in state schools. In addition, in order to maintain the 'cadet experience' for existing cadets and provide a similar experience for the

new ones, a Cadet Centre was opened at Inskip, near Preston.

The site - a former Marine Society & Sea Cadets' Regional Training Centre - was taken over by the RAFAC organisation and developed into a full training centre. It is able to accommodate 66 cadets plus 14 staff with facilities that include two air rifle ranges; climbing wall; low ropes/

By Wing Commander Bob Chalklin

initiative course; IT suite; classrooms and adventure training equipment. Some 11,000 cadets – from all three Services – now attend this centre, which can be booked on Bader, each year.

The original CEP target of 100 new cadet units was reached six months early in March 2015 with 11 new RAF sections being set up in Albion Academy, Salford; All Saints Academy, Cheltenham; Christleton High School, Chester; Glyn School and Freeman's School, Ewell; Q3 Great Barr Academy, Birmingham; Heanor Gate Science College, Heanor; Heathrow Aviation Engineering UTC, Northwood; King's Leadership Academy Warrington; Onslow St Audrey School, Hatfield; Penair School, Truro; Sir Thomas Freemantle Academy, Winslow.

Moreover, the RAF was the only Service to set up new units in the North West during this initial CEP phase.

Schools that have set up cadet units have reported significant benefits for their young people, their schools and the local community, with notable improvements in attendance and behaviour, attainment, commitment, self-confidence and discipline.

Indeed, such is the success, that the government has committed an extra £50 million from LIBOR fines to further increase the number of cadet units in schools across the UK, bringing the total number to 500 by 2020.

While the first 100 new CEP units were demand-led, the more recent phase of expansion has had a more targeted approach, with priority given to those in less affluent areas and in areas

where there was limited access to the cadet experience.

Nevertheless, the RAF has already achieved its target of 20 additional new cadet units and was the first Service to fully establish the additional personnel required to support the increased number of units. These new units have helped the Government reach its target of 500 units more than 12 months early.

Wing Commander Chalkin, RAF Cadet Expansion Programme Engagement Officer, said: "There was a worry that the formation of a new cadet unit in a school would adversely affect the number of pupils looking to join their local community cadet unit.

"However, in many cases the opposite has happened. For example, when the new section was being opened at St George's Academy in Sleaford, they could only cope with 35 cadets in their first year. More than 100 pupils expressed interest in joining the section and the 'extra' 60+ were signposted to 1260 (Sleaford) Squadron."

In addition to the new sections, it is intended to set up new cadet centres too. Plans are still in progress, but two new centres are earmarked for the East Midlands and the South West. If further funding is available, centres would also be established in Scotland and the South East.

Wing Commander Chalkin added: "Doubling the number of schools with cadet units in a relatively short space of time is a significant achievement.

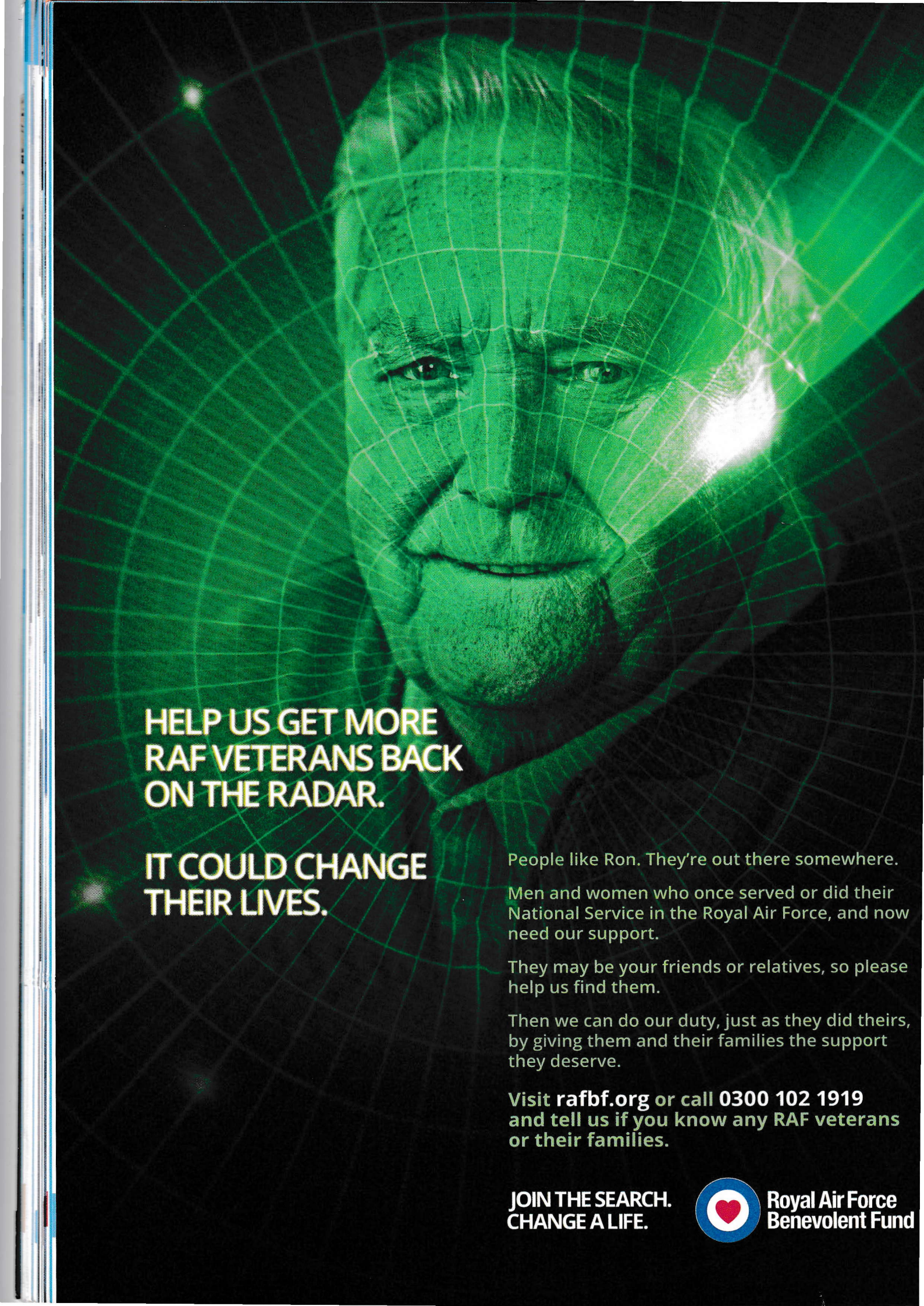
"However, these new units are helping give more young people the life skills and self-confidence to take charge of their lives so they can reach their full potential

at school and beyond. All pupils whatever their background or circumstances, should have access to this opportunity."

The full list of CEP 500 sections, by area is:

East Midlands
 Priory Ruskin, Grantham
 St George's Academy, Sleaford
 Magnus Academy, Newark
 London & South East
 Central Foundation School for Boys
 Chatham & Clarendon GS
 Kingsford Community School
 Westminster Academy
 West Midlands
 Aston University Engineering Academy
 Barr Beacon
 Bloxwich Academy
 Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Academy
 Etone College
 Heath Park Academy
 Jewellery Quarter School
 Q3 Academy Langley
 North West
 King's Leadership, Liverpool
 Ripley St Thomas, Lancaster
 Scotland
 Albyn School – as a 'Business as Usual' unit, although it counts against the overall number of 500
 Armadale Academy – an ATC-linked Detachment, a model peculiar to Scotland
 South West
 Camborne International and Science Academy
 Weston College
 North Somerset ETC
 Broadoak Maths and Computing College. ■





**HELP US GET MORE
RAF VETERANS BACK
ON THE RADAR.**

**IT COULD CHANGE
THEIR LIVES.**

People like Ron. They're out there somewhere.

Men and women who once served or did their National Service in the Royal Air Force, and now need our support.

They may be your friends or relatives, so please help us find them.

Then we can do our duty, just as they did theirs, by giving them and their families the support they deserve.

**Visit rafbf.org or call 0300 102 1919
and tell us if you know any RAF veterans
or their families.**

**JOIN THE SEARCH.
CHANGE A LIFE.**



**Royal Air Force
Benevolent Fund**



Kingswood

Inspiring Learning

How Kingswood can help make your Air Cadet career soar



For those who are part of the groups like the air cadets it is safe to say that adventure and action is something that is craved in their lives. It comes as no surprise that every year nearly 56,000 air cadets and volunteers take part in exciting events all over the country including camping and flying with their squadrons.

Cadets must possess qualities which are often learned through a variety of tasks.

That is where outdoor education and adventure provider, Kingswood can step in. It is hosting a variety of Awesome Autumn Adventures available for groups to take part in. These camps aim to provide an excellent opportunity for air cadets and their leaders to network and bond are a great chance to come together, make new friends and take part in new and exciting activities.

Enhancing leadership

As an air cadet, one of the many badges that can be earned is a leadership badge. Kingswood is the perfect place to take part in activities such as orienteering to teach these skills. Group members learn basic map reading skills while navigating their way around the centre finding various checkpoints

and take turns leading the task while showing initiative.

There is also team tech which encourages teams to work strategically against the clock to complete a series of time-dependent construction challenges using award winning MTa learning equipment.

The experiences they will be presented with while at camp will also encourage squadrons to step out of their comfort zones and try something new - both essential for success and development.

Tackling teamwork, solving problems and building trust

Teamwork is at the forefront of what it means to be a part of a group like the air cadets. Knowing how to work together is one thing but enjoying that process is another. Creating stronger relationships is at the heart of what Kingswood has to offer.

Problem solving is another activity which involves participants working their way around a range of problems and puzzles. Teams must be quick in devising a decision making process. Cooperation – not confrontation – is the key to success.

Partakers can also have their sight stripped away with a blindfold while participating in Nightline, an activity focussing on trust. To be successful, they will need to use all their communications skills to navigate through a series of obstacles.

Another challenge which may also appeal is Bushcraft. By working together in teams, Bushcraft teaches young people a variety of wilderness survival skills while also highlighting important life skills such as resilience, communication, problem solving, creativity and overcoming personal challenges.

Give it a go

So why not give it a try? There's no better way for a group member to hone their craft, bond with their squad and have a great time all at once!

Awesome Autumn Adventures are priced from £59 per person, fully inclusive plus VAT for an all-inclusive two nights stay and are available at all Kingswood from 1st September – 1st December 2019. Enquires must be made by 23rd August.

- **Colomendy** Denbighshire, North Wales
- **Dearne Valley** Doncaster, South Yorkshire
- **Dukeshouse Wood** Hexham, Northumberland
- **Grosvenor Hall** Ashford, Kent
- **Isle of Wight** Bembridge
- **Overstrand Hall** Cromer, North Norfolk
- **Peak Venture** Sheffield, South Yorkshire
- **Staffordshire** Wolverhampton, West Midlands
- **West Runton** North Norfolk

For more information visit www.kingswood.co.uk ■



Cadet drops in – 80 years on!

Sprightly 93-year-old Ken Muddimer has staked his claim to being the oldest surviving Air Cadet - he is certainly the oldest known ex-cadet from Leicester's No 1 Founder Squadron.

After joining at the age of 13 years, Ken had already spent almost two years as a cadet in the Air Defence Cadet Corps (ADCC). When the ADCC became the Air Training Corps in February 1941, Ken then became a cadet in the country's first squadron, No 1 (City of Leicester).

After finishing his cadet service, Ken became a member of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve (RAFVR) training as a Flight Engineer. He later joined the Army spending four years in the Service during which time he became a top runner and excelled in shooting.

"I loved every minute of it," said Ken.

Eighty years after becoming a cadet, Ken paid a visit to his old squadron. After recounting his cadet stories with the present Commanding Officer, Flight Lieutenant Emelye Kenyon, Ken spent time being touring the squadron and meeting cadets, including the unit's youngest cadet Josh Carvel.

At the end of the visit, Flt Lt Kenyon presented Ken with a squadron shield to commemorate his visit.

"It's been a fantastic evening which has brought back many memories," said Ken as he thanked all those involved. ■



Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier meets the 2019 RAF Association Flying Scholars (left to right) Milan Gandhi, Maleha Khan, Robin Dalton, Allan Haddow, Thomas Grieves, Alfie Williams, Ben Wober, Joe Stevens, Olivia Brown, Alex Braybrook and Abbi Flynn, at the RAF Association National Conference.

Budding pilots

A group of 11 outstanding RAF Air Cadets from around the UK have taken to the skies this summer, after winning Flying Scholarships from a national military charity.

Ten of the teenagers were awarded 12 hours of flying lessons, with the eleventh receiving 35 hours, for their commitment to the work of Royal Air Forces Association.

They were each presented with their scholarships at the RAF Association's annual conference in Birmingham by the former Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier.

Alex Braybrook, a Cadet Flight Sergeant with 115 (Peterborough) Squadron, received the 35 hours of lessons. He said: "I found out I'd received the scholarship on my 17th birthday, which I think is the best present I'll ever get! My friends at school think it's crazy that I could get my pilot licence before I get my driving licence."

The other cadets who received Flying Scholarships are: Cadet Sergeant Maleha Khan, 2428 (Hedge End) Sqn; Cadet Corporal Alfie Williams, King Edward VI Grammar School; Cadet Flight Sergeant Milan Gandhi, 1454 (Harrow) Sqn; Cadet Flight Sergeant Joe Stevens, 88 (Battle) Sqn; Cadet Sergeant Ben Wober, 606 (Beaconsfield) Sqn; Cadet Flight Sergeant Olivia Brown, 1279 (Melton Mowbray) Sqn; Cadet Flight Sergeant Robin Dalton, 2443 Okehampton Sqn; Cadet Corporal Abbi Flynn,

739 (Scarborough) Sqn; Cadet Flight Sergeant Thomas Grieves, 110 (City of York) Sqn and Cadet Flight Sergeant Allan Haddow, 137 (Ayr and Prestwick) Sqn.

The flying lessons took place at South Warwickshire Flying School and, depending on their rate of progress, the course could earn the flying scholars their light aircraft pilot licence.

Del Rowlands, Director of Membership for the RAF Association, said: "We're delighted to be offering these dedicated young people the chance to learn to fly through our Flying Scholarships. This year's applicants were particularly strong and, on behalf of the Association, I'd like to wish them all the best during their courses and in their future careers."

More than 250 young people applied for a place on the 2019 Flying Scholarships. Three of the scholarships are being sponsored by MBDA, a multinational defence contractor, and two of them by the Aviation Focus Group, which promotes the exchange of aviation information, and encourages young people interested in the industry. The RAF Association is funding the remaining six.

The RAF Association will be inviting applications for the 2020 Flying Scholarships in the coming months. For more information, visit: www.rafa.org.uk/flying-scholarships ■

Cadets take to the air

Welsh air cadets, working at Swansea Bay's Wales Airshow, took to the air - courtesy of the Air Cadets Ambassador, Honorary Group Captain Carol Vorderman.

Carol, who was broadcasting live for BBC Radio Wales at the show, interviewed Cadet Sergeant Ben Taylor, 2420 (Whitland) Sqn, Cadet Flight Sergeant Katie Fung, 1998 (West Cross) Sqn, Cadet Warrant Officer Matthew Jones 334 (Neath) Sqn and Cdt Sergeant Maddison Parkhouse, 2318 (Aberkenfig) Sqn. They were asked about their lives in the air cadets and to tell the listeners about all the opportunities on offer.

"It was a good experience to do a radio interview, but really nerve wracking to do it live. Group Captain Vorderman really put us at ease and the interview went really well," said Ben.

Gp Capt Vorderman visited the Air Cadet engagement area after the broadcast and met all the cadets and staff from No 3 Welsh Wing working at the show.

Huge crowds turned up to enjoy a whole range of displays and activities on the ground as well as in the air to help celebrate one of the landmark events marking the 50th anniversary of Swansea's city status.

Headlining this year's show was the RAF Aerobatic Team - The Red Arrows. Their display was particularly special for one of the pilots.

Squadron Leader Mike Bowden, Red 3, who grew in South Wales said;

"I feel incredibly lucky to be here again in my final season as one of the Red Arrows' pilots and enjoyed every bit of displaying to the crowds at the Wales National Airshow in Swansea over the weekend."

RAF Air Cadets from 215 (City of Swansea) Sqn also paraded through the city to commemorate 100 years since a Swansea resident's world-renowned epic flight.

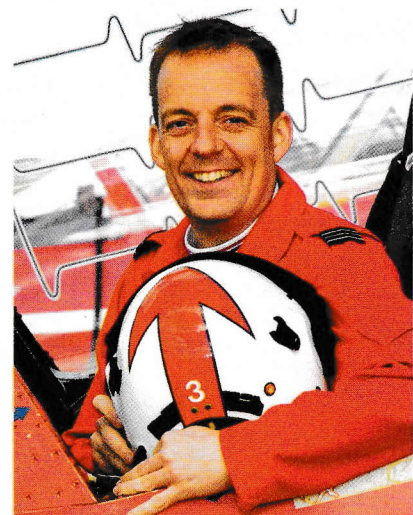
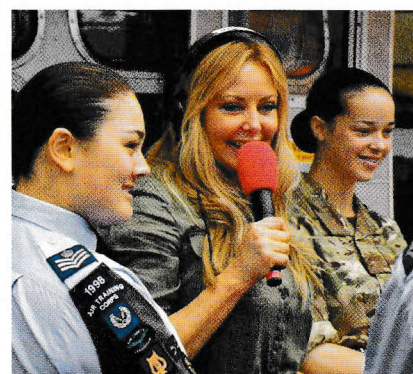


Arthur Whitten Brown settled in Swansea after he and fellow RAF officer John Alcock, became the first to fly across the Atlantic non-stop in June 1919.

Cadet Elisa Bonazzi, aged 15, said: "It's really special and a once in a lifetime opportunity. It's a big event and it's great to be part of it."

The County's own RAF Reserve Squadron was also on duty over the weekend.

Along with colleagues from Number 614 (County of Glamorgan) Squadron, Aircraftman Jack Pritchard, a driver aged 24 from Cwmbran, was part of The RAF Village. He said: "It's great for me to be here today at Wales' biggest airshow and represent the Squadron. For anyone thinking of joining the Reserves I would say go for it!" ■





Words and Images by
Squadron Leader Allan Munns

Spring into Action

For almost 250 air cadets from across the South and East Midlands, the Spring half-term break provided the ideal opportunity to get away for an adventure-filled week at the Swynnerton Defence Training Estate in Staffordshire.

The cadets took over the 560 acre site for a week of activities covering cornerstone elements of the Air Cadet Experience. Activities included target shooting, clay pigeon shooting, adventure training, leadership and team building, fieldcraft as well as elements of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

The busy programme, together with heaps of sport, ensured the cadets were active from breakfast to lights out.

Some 60 volunteer staff were on hand to ensure that the cadets' days and evenings were filled with a range of activities, properly supervised and safely

executed. Appropriately qualified staff were ably supported by other staff and cadets over the age of eighteen who had the opportunity to exercise their qualities of leadership and responsibility.

Commandant Air Cadets, Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty, along with



other civil and military VIPs visited the cadets, and all were impressed with the enthusiasm of the cadets and the dedication and hard work of the supervising staff.

Wing Commander Andy Pass, Officer Commanding South & East Midlands Wing, said: "The camp has again been excellent, building on the successful formula of previous years but with changes aimed at keeping the week's activities fresh and up to date.

"It has to be said that a camp such as this would not be possible without the dedication, skill and generosity of the volunteers who give up so much of their time to help provide the safe and exciting cadet experience."

Thirteen-year-old Cadet James Cousins, attending for the first time having been a cadet for just seven months, said: "I volunteered for Swynnerton because it offered new experiences - all of which have been great fun. I will certainly be back!" ■





New shine to Bronze Award

Since the DofE was founded by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in 1956, it has continually evolved the way its programmes are delivered to ensure the Award remains relevant, rewarding and challenging for the benefit of young people.

During the past year and in an effort to boost the numbers of those starting and completing their Bronze Award, the DofE ran a UK-wide trial of five new options that could be used with Bronze DofE groups in the future.

As a result, these changes will now be adopted and will come into effect this

season. A brief summary of the changes is listed below.

1 Indoor accommodation

Although indoor accommodation has always been an option for all Award levels, under the 'variations' rules, this is now extended to all groups who might want to consider it as an alternative. This is to ensure that any Bronze DofE groups who can benefit from this

flexibility, especially SEN groups, are encouraged to take it up. However, tents must still be carried, and the indoor accommodation must be simple such as camping barns and bunk houses.

2 Leader-set generic aim

Participants will be able to decide if they'd like to come up with their own aim for their Bronze-level expedition or to have a generic aim set by their leader

By Wg Cdr Helen Gerrish

or expedition supervisor. This will enable leaders to give more support to Bronze DofE groups that are struggling to think of ideas or destinations, modes of travel and project themes.

3 No presentation

The presentation will no longer be a requirement for Bronze-level expeditions. However, Bronze DofE groups must still have an aim and there must be a thorough (20-30 minutes)

assessor debrief at the end of the expedition to consolidate learning, which is supported by the assessor debrief notes.

4 Combined Supervisor/Assessor

Bronze-level expeditions will be able to have one individual performing both the supervisor and assessor role. However, the individual performing both roles must be an accredited assessor and have completed the DofE's EAAS course.

They must also fulfil the RAF Air Cadets' requirements to supervise expeditions.

5 No practice expedition

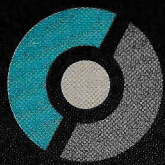
A practice expedition is no longer a requirement at Bronze-level. However, participants are still expected to reach the skills and fitness levels appropriate for completing the remotely supervised, qualifying expedition. ■

Golden Moment



Well done to all the cadets who received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award at Buckingham Palace recently. More than 20 cadets from Staffordshire Wing received their awards from television presenter Ore Oduba and HRH Princess Eugenie.

As well as gaining awards, cadets from London and South East Region assisted with crowd control, VIP escorts and provided a Guard of Honour for members of the Royal family. They also got to meet a variety of celebrities including Peter Andre, Judge Rinder and Martin Kemp, with their awards presented by HRH Countess of Wessex and Radio 1's Scott Mills. ■



CADET DIRECT

THE UK'S LEADING SUPPLIER OF CADET UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

Telephone Orders: 01892 6622

E-mail: orders@cadetdirect.com



Payments secured by
sagepay



VERIFIED
by VISA

MasterCard
SecureCode



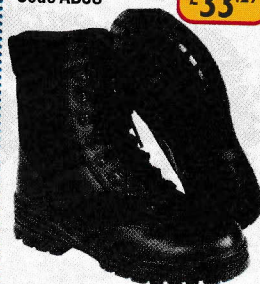
ASSAULT & PATROL BOOTS

British Assault Boot
Code CD001



FROM
£41.63

Patrol Boot
Code AB38



FROM
£33.29

Magnum Classic
Code AB54



£59.95

Magnum Panther 8.0
Code AB77



£70.95

Delta Patrol Boot MoD Brown
Code AB75



FROM
£35.79

Patrol Boot MoD Brown
Code AB73



FROM
£39.95

Elite Patrol Boot
Code AB15

These brand new waterproof Elite Patrol boots in UK foot size 3 to 6 have been specially developed to provide a better performing cadet boot at an affordable price.



FROM
£49.96

NEW PRODUCT

100% WATER PROOF

Also available in black code AB14

British Forces Style Parade Shoe
Code CD003



SIZES 3-6
£28.29

SIZES 7-14
£33.95

Ladies Parade/Service Shoe
Code CD002



SIZES 6-9
£37.95

SIZES 1-5.5
£31.62

BRITISH FORCES MTP CLOTHING



£26.25



£19.95



£49.95

British Forces MTP (PCS) G1 Used Combat Trousers, Combat Shirt and Waterproof Smock
Trousers MTP12G, Shirt MTP11G, Smock MTP13G



£45.95

Cadet Forces MTP Bergen, 70L Code KT002



£47.95

Cadet Assault Vest, MTP
Code KT001



£44.95

Cadet NI Patrol Pack 50L Code KT004



£39.95

Tactical Assault Pack Small 24L Code KT005



£1.00

Trouser Twisters
Code AA24



£11.95

ATC Staff Cadet Lanyard
Code AD04ATC



£7.25

Milcom Cadet Patrol Socks
Code MSOPAT



£9.95

Combat Sock
Code AA35



£9.95

Ultimate Liner Sock
Code AA34



£9.95

Air Cadets Next Generation T Shirt
Code Blue AA15ATC/NG
Olive AA15ATC/NGO



£69.95

Kammo Tactical MTP Airborne Webbing Set
Code KT0CP



£7.26

ATC Corlene Belt, Plate & Catch Code HB62



£17.95

Soldier '95 Working Belt Code AA22



£28.95

RAF New Pattern Stable Belt Code SB26

Wesco Camo Cream Stick
Code AB09



£3.50

VISIT WWW.CADETDIRECT.COM FOR OUR

NEW AIR CADET PROGRESSIVE TRAINING SYLLABUS BADGES

SHOOTING



Trained Shot Badges TB60



Marksman Badges TB61



Advanced Marksman Badges TB62



Air Cadet Competition Marksman Badges TB63

FLYING



Air Cadet ATP Flying Wings Badges TB64/B



Pilot Navigation training scheme Silver TB64/S



Pilot Scholarship Gold Wings TB64/G



Air Cadet Civilian Wings Badge TB64/C

GLIDING



Air Cadet ATP Gliding Wings Badges TB65

DofE AWARD

Pre DofE Award Blue Badge TB51/BL



NEW PRODUCT

FIRST AID Heartstart First Aid Badge

Code TB43



Activity First Aid Silver Badge

Code TB59/S



Youth First Aid Badge

Code TB59/BR



Instructor First aid Gold Badge

Code TB59/G



DofE Award Scheme Badges TB51

NEW AIR CADET RANK SLIDES & CHEVRONS

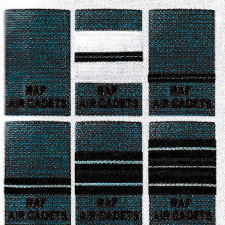
RAF/ATC Blue Woven NCO/WO Rank Slides Code AE07RB



ATC Staff Cadet Rank Slides AE07ST



RAF Air Cadets Officers Rank Slides No.2 Dress (Light Blue) AE50LB



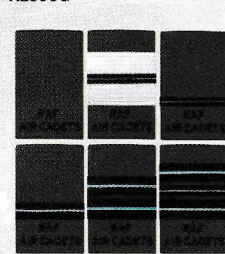
RAF Air Cadets Officers Rank Slides No.2 Dress (Dark Blue) AE50DB

RAF Air Cadets Officers Rank Slides GP Jacket Blue Code AE50GP



RAF Air Cadet Officers Rank Slides, Wet Weather Jacket Blue AE50GT

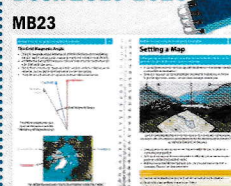
RAF Air Cadets Officers Rank Slides Olive Green AE50OG



RAF Air Cadets Officers Rank Slides MTP AE50MTP



Leading Cadet Resource Book 2019-2020 MB23



MULTI-BUY DISCOUNT



First Class Air Cadet Instructor Handbook 2019-2020 Edition MB24



First Class Air Cadet Resource Book MB22CP



Air Cadet Pocket Book 2019-2020 MB19



FREE CATALOGUE ORDER A COPY ONLINE



FULL RANGE

Cadet Direct • Unit 4, Sybron Way, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 3DZ
E-mail: orders@cadetdirect.com • Telephone Orders: 01892 662 230

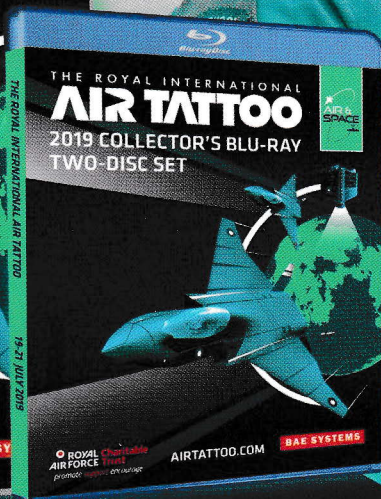
THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL AIR TATTOO



THANK YOU

To the Air Cadets and staff who worked with us to deliver the world's greatest airshow this year.

We look forward to having you back with us once again on 17-19 July 2020.



BLU-RAY & DVD ON SALE NOW

Collector's Blu-ray: **£35.00**

Collector's DVD: **£30.00**

To Order Call: **01285 713456** Visit: airtattoo.com

 **ROYAL AIR FORCE** Charitable Trust
promote support encourage

AIRTATTOO.COM

BAE SYSTEMS

